

Iraq lodges protest at U.N.

BAHRAIN (AP) — Iraq on Tuesday lodged a protest with the United Nations against the Iranian offensive in the northern sector of the Gulf, as it reported day-long intensive strikes by its air force on Iranian troops in the region. The air strikes were reported a day after Iraq announced it had crushed an Iranian offensive in the northern parts of the 1,180-kilometre-long front line, killing thousands of invading Iranian troops. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, confirming that the Iraqis had crossed into Iraqi territory said in the protest note to the U.N. that "Iran infringed on Iraqi sovereignty to seize territory by force in violation of the U.N. Charter, the Security Council resolutions and the principles of international law." The Iraqi News Agency quoted Mr. Aziz as also advising U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar that "lack of deterrent action against the Iranian regime will lead to intransigence on their part and to escalation of tension in the region."

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Arab envoys begin mediation bid

AMMAN (J.T.) — Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz on Tuesday met with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in Damascus in a bid to mediate inter-Arab differences, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. The agency said Prince Abdullah's meeting with Mr. Assad was attended by the Syrian President's brother, Vice-President Rifaat Al Assad, and Saudi National Guard Deputy Commander Abdul Aziz Al Tuwajerli. Reports from Damascus said Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammad Mzali and Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi also arrived there Tuesday. Saudi Arabia and Tunisia are the two members of a committee charged by the extraordinary Arab summit held in Casablanca in August to heal differences between Syria and Jordan. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai said in a recent press conference that the differences were "Syria's own choice" and Jordan did not have any fundamental differences with Damascus.

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Nabulsi named head of ECWA

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Mohammad Said Nabulsi, ex-governor of the Central Bank of Jordan, has been named executive secretary of the Baghdad-based U.N. Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA), U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar announced Tuesday. Mr. Nabulsi, a Jordanian citizen, had served with Jordan's Central Bank since 1968 until mid-1975. He has been a governor of the International Monetary Fund since 1972. Educated at the University of Damascus, Syria and Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., Mr. Nabulsi worked in the Central Bank of Syria in Damascus from 1954 to 1967. Nabulsi replaces Mr. Mohammad Said Al Attar of Yemen.

Monday declared public holiday

AMMAN (Petra) — All government departments and public institutions will remain closed on Monday, Sept. 16, on the occasion of the new Hijra year, a statement issued by the Prime Ministry said Tuesday.

Bridge closures announced

AMMAN (Petra) — The King Hussein and Prince Mohammad bridges on River Jordan will be closed for travellers and vehicles from Sunday at 10 a.m. until Wednesday morning, according to an announcement by the Public Security Department. The announcement requested citizens not to go to the bridges during that period.

Speakes notes Arafat did not mention U.N. resolutions

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — White House deputy spokesman Larry Speakes, briefing reporters on Tuesday, noted that Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, in a satellite address to the annual convention of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, called on the U.S. to support the "peace for land" formula in the Mideast. "In the statement, though," Speakes said, "he apparently did not comment on the U.N. resolutions (242 and 338) and the right of Israel to exist, which is an important part of our policy." (U.S. insists on non-recognition until terms met, page 2).

Fahd meets Lebanese president

BAHRAIN (R) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd had talks in Jeddah Tuesday on developments in Lebanon. Lebanese officials said. The officials, accompanying Mr. Gemayel and contacted by telephone, declined to give details of the discussions. Mr. Gemayel, due to return home later Tuesday, arrived in Jeddah Monday night after a three-day visit to West Germany, where Chancellor Helmut Kohl promised he would send his foreign minister to Beirut to assess what aid could be extended to Lebanon.

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Rifai pledges to meet mayors' demands for more powers, revenue

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai has pledged his cabinet's support for solving all problems impeding provincial governorates and municipalities from carrying out their official duties. The prime minister promised that the government will increase the powers of provincial institutions through amending the current municipal laws and legislation, increasing municipalities' revenues and offering provinces more technical expertise.

Mr. Rifai made these comments during a meeting held on Tuesday with mayors and governors representing 39 local municipalities, who outlined their needs and demands in the presence of Minister of Rural and Municipal Affairs and Environment, Marwan Al Humoud, and directors general of the Housing Corporation, the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ), the Cities and Villages Development Bank, the Land and Surveying Department, the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) and the Jordan Electricity Authority.

At the outset of the meeting, which lasted for two hours after speeches by Mr. Humoud and Mr. Rifai, Dr. Abdul Razzak Al Nsour, mayor of salt, said that his council feels restricted by some of the existing laws which have been in force since the 1950s. Dr. Nsour said: "Building and organising cities is a battle which

calls for sound planning, extensive efforts and follow ups."

"For this to be achieved, mayors should be granted wide-ranging powers and more funds," he demanded.

The mayor added that municipalities should be regarded as back up institutions for the government, helping it to carry out development projects and shouldering a greater measure of public responsibility.

Ma'an Mayor Muhieddine Kreishan expressed appreciation for the government's recent decision to upgrade the status of a number of districts but stated that the old municipalities law is still in force and "is impeding" the development.

"The law does not allow municipalities in Jordan to raise enough funds for meeting their commitments and improving public services", Mr. Kreishan said.

The mayors of Irbid, Jweideh,

Quesmeh and South Shumrah also called for re-examining the existing municipalities law and the financial conditions of their respective municipalities with a view to improve revenues. They also urged the government to help municipalities form a federation, which they said, would enhance relations among them, and provide a larger scale of services to the public.

In response to the mayors' demands, Mr. Rifai promised that the government would review the municipalities law and amend it and the cabinet is studying the issue.

He said the government "is aware that the lack of adequate funds is causing several problems to provincial governorates, but this lack is evident in all other government institutions since the country's revenues this year are restricted."

"However, the cabinet ministers and myself will study means of raising the municipalities' revenues, taking into consideration, that both the Jordanian citizen and treasury will not be affected", Mr. Rifai said.

Jerash Mayor Mohammad Al-Hawamdah said municipality requests focused mainly on the respective cities' infra-structure plans.

Criticising the procedures covering the administrative aspects of city planning, he said "they are routine procedures that waste people's time and efforts."

As a solution to implementing urban infrastructure plans, Mr. Hawamdah suggested that the

(Continued on page 3)

Syria seeks to cement Bourj Al Barajneh truce

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Syrian-backed efforts to end eight days of bloody fighting in Beirut between Lebanese militiamen and Palestinian fighters defending the Bourj Al Barajneh camp appeared to run into difficulties on Tuesday as shooting continued around sprawling refugee camp.

Fighting tapered off into sporadic sniping and armoured vehicles of the Shi'ite Amal militia left positions from which they had pounded the camp since Sept. 3. The Associated Press reported that Syrian observers were deployed around Bourj Al Barajneh to enforce a ceasefire but heavy firing by anti-aircraft guns and automatic weapons cracked around the camp on Beirut's southern outskirts as truce teams led by Syrian officers sought to cement the truce that began Monday night.

It was not clear what triggered Tuesday's clashes. But Amal militiamen who besieged the camp a week ago were edgy and nervous as they ringed the camp behind

sandbag emplacements.

An AP car was hit by machine gun fire as it drove along the airport highway on the western edge of the camp. But none of the three occupants was hurt.

There was sporadic shooting earlier in the day as the observer teams fanned out around the camp's perimeter to set up posts. One Syrian officer, who identified himself only as Abu Hussein, told the AP: "We're manning five positions around the camp. There are no obstructions."

But reporters who were escorted into the camp by Amal gunmen found the fighters on both sides extremely jittery.

The five-man observer teams comprised one Syrian officer, two Amal officials and two members of the Palestinian National Salvation Front (PNSF), a Syrian-backed coalition of factions opposed to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser

Israel frees 'last' batch of detainees

TYRE (AP) — A group of 119 Lebanese and Palestinian detainees held by Israel were freed Tuesday and got a heroes' welcome when they rode into the southern port of Tyre chanting "We will fight Israel again."

The men were among more than 700 Arabs held in Israel's Adit prison near Haifa whose release was demanded by gunmen who hijacked a Trans World Airlines jet June 14 and held 39 Americans hostage. Israel says the group released on Tuesday was the "last" of detainees it took during its three-year occupation of Lebanon.

Tuesday's release brought closer the final chapter of the hijack drama. Two Frenchmen kidnapped by an extremist group were expected to be freed soon after the 119 men were released. Shi'ite leaders said.

The kidnappers said during negotiations for the release of the Americans they would free the Frenchmen, journalist Jean-Paul Kauffmann, 42, and scientist researcher Michel Saurat, 37, when all the Adit prisoners were home.

An International Red Cross official, who declined to be identified, declared as the last batch of detainees crossed from Israel's self-styled "security zone" in South Lebanon: "Adit is now empty."

The men freed Tuesday were driven to the Ras Al Bayada checkpoint on the northern edge of the Israeli-occupied zone and handed over to Red Cross officials.

The release was delayed for several hours after the four buses carrying the prisoners were held up inside Israel's "security zone" when militiamen of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) tried to seize some of the detainees. Red Cross officials reported.

Once the released men — 83 Lebanese and 36 Palestinians — crossed at Ras Al Bayada on Lebanon's southern coast, they were cheered by hundreds of men and women lining the eight-kilometre road to Tyre.



ENVOYS PRESENT CREDENTIALS: Four newly appointed ambassadors to Jordan present their credentials to His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday. They are: Ghafel Jassem Hussein of Iraq (top left), Peter Ziyadeh of Lebanon (top right), Harald Bomer of Switzerland (below left), and Gary Harman of Canada. The presentation ceremonies were attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasbi, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri. Earlier on Tuesday, Mr. Hussein and Mr. Harman presented copies of their credentials to Mr. Masri (Petra photo).



Sabah denounces Iranian seizures of ships in Gulf

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah on Tuesday denounced Iranian seizures of shipping in or near the Gulf.

Leaving for a four-day official visit to the Netherlands, he said: "The Strait (of Hormuz) is not owned by Iran. It belongs to all the world... it is not in world interests to interfere with shipping in international waters."

The Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said Iranian naval forces on Monday stopped three Gulf-bound freighters in the strait to check if they carried cargo for Iraq, Iran's Gulf war foe.

There was no immediate word on the fate of the vessels, whose nationalities were not known. KUNA quoted marine sources as saying: "They are not Gulf or Arab."

This would bring to six the tally of vessels known to have been detained by Iranian forces in or near the Gulf within the past week. Two of them were Kuwaiti flag-carriers.

Iran claims the right to stop and inspect cargoes of Gulf-bound vessels and keep any goods of "strategic value" to Iraq.

Sheikh Sabah said he would

raise the matter with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati when they are in New York later this month for the U.N. General Assembly.

He told reporters no decision had yet been taken on whether to take the issue to the U.N. itself. This would be decided in discussions with foreign ministers of other Arab Gulf states in New York, he said.

Owners of a Kuwaiti cattle boat en route from Bombay to Dubai said Iranian naval forces held the empty 4,925-ton vessel for two hours on Monday in the Hormuz Strait.

Iran still has in custody the Kuwaiti-flag container ship Al-Watayyah which it seized last Wednesday just outside the strait. It has said the ship will be freed once Iraqi-bound cargo is unloaded.

Last Friday Iranian commandos from a helicopter took over an Italian container ship, the Merzario Britannia, off Saudi Arabia's Gulf coastline, and held it for an eight-hour check.

Sheikh Sabah said he would appeal during his Dutch visit for European nations to do all they could to aid stability in the Middle East.

Oslo coalition survives polls with one-seat majority

OSLO (R) — Prime Minister Kaare Willoch on Tuesday narrowly survived Norway's general elections after a Labour opposition campaign for more oil revenue to be spent on welfare cut his centre-right coalition's majority to one seat.

The final result, which hung in the balance until the early hours of the morning, left the three government parties with 45 per cent of the vote and 78 of the 157 seats in the Storting (parliament) against 49 per cent and 77 seats for the left.

There was no jubilation at the outcome on the government side. Mr. Willoch warned that Norway would be more difficult to govern as a result of the close vote, but he publicly congratulated the Labour opposition on its impressive gains.

For Labour leader Gro Harlem Brundtland, the election was a personal triumph. Labour increased its share of the vote by nearly four per cent, making deep inroads in the government vote, especially in rural areas left behind by the oil boom.

Labour conducted a vigorous campaign, attacking Mr. Willoch's record on health and social services and portraying him as unaring.



SENTATION CEREMONIES WERE ATTENDED BY ROYAL COURT CHIEF MARWAN AL QASBI, COURT MINISTER ADNAN ABU ODEH AND FOREIGN MINISTER TAHER AL MASRI. EARLIER ON TUESDAY, MR. HUSSEIN AND MR. HARMAN PRESENTED COPIES OF THEIR CREDENTIALS TO MR. MASRI (PETRA PHOTO).



Hassan and Swareddehab open talks in Khartoum

KHARTOUM (Petra) — His Royal Highness, Crown Prince Hassan opened talks here Tuesday evening with the head of Sudan's military council, Abdul Rahman Swareddehab, soon after his arrival in the Sudanese capital on an official visit expected to last several days.

Upon his arrival here, Prince Hassan said he was carrying greetings from His Majesty King Hussein, the Jordanian government and people to the Sudanese people and leadership. He expressed hope that ties between the two countries will be further strengthened.

Prince Hassan who is making the visit at the invitation of

Lieutenant-General Swareddehab, was met by Gen. Mohammad Merghalli, Gen. Swareddehab's deputy, and senior Sudanese leader as well as Arab ambassadors to Sudan.

Prince Hassan is accompanied on the visit by a delegation comprising Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources Hisham Al-Khatib, Mu'ta University President Ali Mahafza, the director general of the Pension Fund, the secretary general of the Ministry of Planning and the under-secretary of the Ministry of Awqaf and Jordanian Journalists Association President Mahmoud Al-Kayed.

Security Council fails to agree on statement about West Bank

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Security Council members held a second inconclusive round of consultations on Monday on a proposal for a statement calling on Israel to halt its policy of "administrative detention" and deportation in the occupied territories.

No date was set for further con-

sultations. Council sources said there was no agreement on a draft statement, first circulated by India at a closed-door meeting last Friday as leader of the non-aligned group.

The United States considered the proposed text one-sided and opposed any council statement.

Reagan sanctions manage to delay Congress move against apartheid

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan, by imposing his own limited sanctions on South Africa, has stopped Congress from voting some stronger measures for the time being, but advocates of congressional action say they are not giving up.

After Mr. Reagan announced his measures on Monday, Democratic senators were unable to force a Senate vote approving a congressional sanctions bill.

But, calling Mr. Reagan's sanctions weak and an excuse to delay U.S. pressure on apartheid, they vowed to try again as early as

Wednesday to force eventual approval of congressional sanctions.

A Senate vote on Monday on a Democratic proposal to end a debate on a congressional sanctions bill, and vote on it, was 53 for and 34 against, seven short of the 60 needed for approval.

Assistant Senate Democratic leader Alan Cranston called Mr. Reagan's package "an excuse for more delay" but Republican leader Robert Dole accused the Democrats of playing politics.

"They're trying to punish Ronald Reagan instead of South Africa," he said.

Mr. Reagan imposed a ban on

most U.S. bank loans plus nuclear technology and computer sales to South Africa, and took a step towards banning U.S. imports of South African gold coins.

Mr. Reagan said: "Our aim cannot be to punish South Africa with economic sanctions that would injure the very people we are trying to help."

He said he imposed limited sanctions "indicating that the American people can get impatient."

The chief difference between Mr. Reagan's sanctions and the bill in Congress is that the bill provides for consideration of tougher

(Continued on page 3)

Japan urges Israel-PLO talks, Shamir says no

TOKYO (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone on Tuesday urged Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir to talk with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to bring peace to the Middle East.

"The PLO is thinking earnestly about how to achieve peace and it is very important that Israel meet and discuss with them," a Foreign Ministry spokesman quoted Mr. Nakasone as saying.

Mr. Shamir, who is on a five-day visit to Japan, replied that Israel could not discuss peace with the PLO because it was "a terrorist organisation" that did not recognise Israel's right to exist, the

spokesman said.

"We are ready to discuss with Jordan, with Egypt," Mr. Shamir said at a press conference here on Monday. "We are convinced that we can negotiate and get peace with any Arab country but with the PLO we cannot get peace because the PLO is by its ideology... against peace with Israel..."

"Any support for such an organisation given by any country is doing harm to the cause of peace."

On Mr. Nakasone's suggestion that Israel should hold discussions with Syria, the ministry quoted Mr. Shamir as saying: "The Syrian regime is too radical to be negotiated with fruitfully."

He also repeated Israeli denials that Israel sells arms to Iran for its war with Iraq, or to China.

He also denied that Israel possesses nuclear weapons.

"In the Mideast, we already have too many not-nuclear weapons," he said.

Mr. Shamir's stay, which began last Friday, is the first official visit to Japan by an Israeli foreign minister.

New generation of Palestinians come to the fore to fight Israeli occupation

TEL AVIV (AP) — Palestinian Arab teen-agers, born under Israeli occupation, are attacking Israelis in a new effort to drive Israel from the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The striking thing about the attacks is that they are not stone-throwing demonstrations by bands of youths, but are directed at individual Jews by young men using guns, knives or bombs.

And for the first time, some experts say, the youths are acting independently of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Those experts contend that the youths have been emboldened by Israel's retreat from South Lebanon under attack by Shi'ite Muslims, and its release of 1,150 Arabs, including some convicted commandos, in exchange for three captured Israeli soldiers.

At least seven Israelis have been killed since May in shootings and stabbings. About a dozen people have been injured by bombs.

Israeli leaders have accused the PLO of encouraging the attacks and instructing youths. But analysts say the PLO is not supplying weapons or men to carry out the

attacks.

"This is the first time that the initiative is being taken in so many cases by local youths acting on their own," said Tamar Pat, a specialist on the PLO at Tel Aviv University's Jaffe Centre for Strategic Studies.

"In the past, the PLO sent people into the territories to recruit and train new guerrillas," Ms. Pat told the Associated Press. "Now the people being caught have no links to 'terrorist' organisations."

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, speaking on Israel Radio, said half the recent terror attacks were not planned or organised by "terrorist" groups but were carried out by individuals or local groups "acting on a hatred toward Israel and Jews."

But, he continued, the PLO was influencing the youths.

"In Amman, they (PLO officials) can meet per day 10 times more Palestinians who reside in the West Bank or Gaza Strip than

they could in one month in Beirut or Damascus," Mr. Rabin contended.

Israel has warned Jordan to keep PLO officials in check.

"But the most important factor in the increase in attacks is a new spirit in the West Bank," Ms. Pat said. "There's a new generation, a generation born in the period of the 1967 war, when Israel occupied the West Bank and Gaza."

"These teen-agers know no other reality but the reality of occupation under the Israeli government and they are more determined than any other generation to fight Israel," she said.

Professor Amnon Cohen of Jerusalem's Hebrew University, a former adviser to the government on the West Bank, said most of the attackers use "primitive methods which indicate there is a lack of coordination."

"It doesn't take much organisation for someone who carries a single knife to look for a single target and try and stab someone else in the back," he said on Israel Radio.

Ms. Pat said the withdrawal from Lebanon and the release of

Arab prisoners have fostered "a feeling in the (occupied) territories that Israel is not as strong as it used to be."

"Palestinians in the West Bank now believe that Israel won't sustain too many casualties for too long and that they can be driven out," she said.

Attackers also believe "they have nothing to lose," columnist Yossef Zuriel wrote in the newspaper Maariv. "One way or the other, they have learned that even if they are caught and sentenced to life, Arafat will get them out."

The new attacks may also be a reaction to the increase in Jewish settlers in the occupied territories and agitation by religious settlers to increase the number of Jews living in such West Bank cities as Nablus and Hebron.

There are now 45,000 Jewish settlers in the occupied territories where 1.3 million Palestinian Arabs live.

"This has given the Palestinians a sense of desperation, of urgency," Ms. Pat said. "They believe they have to do something before it is too late."

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Herzog pardons Jewish terrorist from jail term

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli President Chaim Herzog has pardoned one of 25 Jewish terrorists jailed for anti-Arab activities in the occupied West Bank, his office said.

In a statement read on state radio, Mr. Herzog's office said the last six months of Uri Meir's prison term would be cancelled. He was expected to go free Tuesday. He was sentenced to 30 months for his involvement in the so-

called "Jewish underground", whose members were arrested in April 1984. Twenty-five have been sentenced to jail terms and another two, army officers, await trial in military court.

Meir was taken to hospital two months ago for an undisclosed illness.

Mr. Herzog granted the pardon because Meir had "recognised his mistake and publicly expressed regret."

Morocco denies hunger strikers are in danger

RABAT (R) — The Moroccan government Tuesday denied reports that nine prisoners on hunger strike for 79 days were in a coma and said their lives were not in danger.

An official communique from the interior ministry said the nine, who have been fasting to demand political prisoner status, were under permanent medical supervision.

The ministry said the nine had been convicted of ordinary crimes and had no right to special pri-

ileges.

It described the reports, issued by relatives of the prisoners in statements to the press, as a mal-
evolent campaign designed to tarnish Morocco's image abroad.

The nine are serving terms of between four and 15 years for their part in riots in Marrakesh in January last year.

The ministry said they were convicted on charges of murder, wilful damage, assault, vandalism, looting and arson.

Palestinian journalists appeal for support

By Hamadeh Al Fara'neh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Arab Journalists Association (AJA) in the occupied Arab territories has appealed to world organisations and trade unions to declare their solidarity with and support for Palestinian journalists, now facing Israel's arbitrary measures.

The appeal came in a message sent by the AJA to the international committee defending journalists' rights.

The message reviewed the various repressive measures being imposed on the Palestinian people in general and the journalists in particular.

It said that the Israeli authorities have imposed a six-month administrative detention on Palestinian journalist Jaddoura Musa, a reporter for the Al Fajr Arabic daily in Jenin and a AJA member.

In recent weeks, the Israeli-occupied Arab territories witnessed more arbitrary measures against the Palestinians including the deportation of 15 persons and the house arrest of 60 others including many journalists and trade union members and students, the

message pointed out.

It said that five journalists are being prevented from resuming their work and are being subjected to severe military checks in a bid to ensure that they do not publish anything about the resistance activity inside the occupied territories.

In another development, trade union leaders in the occupied territories have issued an appeal to all United Nations agencies and to all world organisations and trade unions to take speedy action to end Israeli military oppressions and mass punishments being imposed on the Palestinian people, particularly trade unionists.

The appeal said that the military governor of the West Bank has recently deported four trade union members including Mr. Walid Nazzari, a key member of the Palestinian Trade Unions Federation, and imposed a six month house arrest on 50 other trade unionists.

A statement issued by the trade unions in the West Bank said that those being held under house arrest are employed in the hotel business, construction, carpentry, mechanical and electrical trades.

U.S. insists on non-recognition until PLO accepts Israel's right to exist

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The United States' approach to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is the same now as it has been for the past ten years — no recognition until the PLO accepts United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and accepts Israel's right to exist.

So said the U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, Michael Armacost, in a briefing for foreign correspondents in Washington on Sept. 9.

Mr. Armacost said the United States is studying how any meeting that Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy might have would lead to direct talks "between Israel and Jordan, with Palestinians present."

Then in response to a question about views reportedly expressed by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, indicating a willingness to accept peace for territory, Mr. Armacost stated: "We have not changed our own approach with regard to the PLO. We've said for ten years we won't recognise or negotiate with the PLO until the Resolution 242 or 338 — Israel's right to exist — have been expressed by the PLO in an unequivocal and public way."

Mr. Armacost said that if the report on Mr. Arafat reflects a move in the direction of a peaceful resolution of the Middle East issues, "that's welcome, but it doesn't alter our own conditions."

Following is a transcript of Mr. Armacost's briefing on Middle East-related questions and answers:

Q: What happens in this (Middle East peace) process after the return of Murphy, especially in the Middle East, they believe he failed? And are you still optimistic in achieving the direct negotiation

between the Arabs and the Israelis before the end of the year?

A: Since Ambassador Murphy's return we have continued to ponder how the discussion — which has been discussed in the press and elsewhere — between Ambassador Murphy and representatives of the Jordanian government, and representative Palestinians might contribute to facilitating direct negotiation between the parties to the conflict, that is, Israelis, Jordanians, and Palestinians. And we still are pondering that question. We are hopeful, certainly, that a process can be galvanised, soon, which would permit such direct talks.

It's only through those direct discussions that progress can be made on the underlying question.

Q: Looking at what was described in several newspapers as the Richard Murphy plan, one may get the impression that the administration has given up the precondition that, any meeting with the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation would have to be immediately, right after the direct negotiations between Israel and the Arabs. So the first question is whether there is any plan called the "Murphy plan"? And second, has the administration given up the precondition about direct negotiations, right after the meeting with the delegation?

A: As you know, in our constitutional scheme of things there's only one man who ultimately makes foreign policy in this country, and that's the president. And, therefore, I think Dick Murphy'd be the first to say that there's no "Murphy plan". There are presidential policies in this area.

As I just mentioned, we are still examining how any meeting he

might have would lead promptly to direct discussions between Israel and Jordan, with Palestinians present. And it's the answer to that question that we have been after all along. In that respect nothing really has changed. We're still trying to figure out how you get from here to there.

Q: Yesterday, Yasser Arafat seemed to be addressing himself to American policymakers in a sort of a toned-down approach that seems to indicate he's willing to accept a peace for territory type of arrangement. Do you see any new overtures? And also would that necessitate another round of talks by Secretary Murphy in the region and, if so, when would that take place and what do you hope it would accomplish?

A: With regard to the statement, I've seen nothing more than the news reported this morning. Any movement in the direction of recognising the necessity for a peaceful resolution to these issues, of course, is welcome. But from our standpoint, we have not changed our own approach with regard to the PLO. We've said for 10 years we won't recognise or negotiate with the PLO until the (U.N.) Resolution 242 or 338 — Israel's right to exist — have been expressed by the PLO in an unequivocal and public way. And if this is a move in that direction, that's welcome, but it doesn't alter our own conditions.

As for Murphy's travel, there is no plan at the moment for him to travel back to the region at this point.

Q: I'd like to turn to the upcoming U.S.-Soviet conference on East Asia, which is going to take place in Moscow. In your view, what is the significance of this conference and, number two, what

are the major objectives?

A: You know, it's not a conference. It is a set of talks paralleling comparable discussions we've had at the expert level with Soviet representatives on other issues. That is, to date, this year we've had comparable discussions on the Middle East, on Afghanistan, on Southern Africa. This will be a part of that series of discussions, of clearing the air, that is expressing our respective intentions with regard to various regional issues of interest to both countries.

I believe in this case Paul Wolfowitz counterpart will be Mr. Kapitsa, Mr. Rogachev. Mr. Zaytsev as representative members of their Foreign Ministry, and as we've said with respect to other talks of this kind, we don't regard them as occasions in which we're negotiating and certainly we don't regard these as occasions where the two countries are attempting, through some condominium or collusion to "arrange" the affairs involving other countries; rather, they represent an attempt to convey with some precision our own intentions so that we avoid miscalculations that could be troublesome to ourselves and to others. That's the purpose of these talks which will take place on Thursday and Friday.

Q: Is this a one-time meeting or an ongoing one?

A: I don't know what will follow from these. As I said, this will be the fourth set of regional talks this year. They've all been at the assistant secretary level and whether there will be follow-on discussions on these particular subjects will remain to be seen. That would certainly be quite possible. You will remember, last year when the president spoke at the General As-

sembly he made a proposal for such talks as one means of thickening the communications with the Soviets and we are simply following through on that stated intention which the Soviets picked up on.

Q: Back to the Middle East, sir, a two-part question. The first part is when you're talking about a meeting with the Soviets and talking about the Middle East, do you still oppose an international convention with the participation of the Soviet Union? And do you still regard as one of the preconditions of the Soviets being there the resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel? That's the first part. The second part is about —

A: Why don't I take that much?

This is not an issue, of course, that will come up in these discussions we were just referring to. Those will be confined to East Asia. We have not essentially changed our view. We've always regarded an international conference as something which might prompt countries to take maximalist positions and promote political theatre rather than getting to the task of engaging the parties directly concerned in direct discussion. We do believe that it is important for those who participate to have a relationship with both countries. But we're not really looking for an international conference, per se, of the sort that I think your first question implied, although we recognise the importance to King Hussein to providing an international context of some kind for discussions to proceed. But we're not really looking for that kind of a conference.

Q: We're talking a lot or we heard a lot about the arms sale proposal for Saudi Arabia and Jordan. Could you give us the date

that the administration is going to put this proposal in the Congress and what are the items within the list?

A: No, I really can't. What we said was that we were examining these board issues in the Middle East Arms Transfer study and that study was completed. We have briefed the House and the Senate — at least at the staff level in the Senate — I'm not sure the full briefings have been completed as yet — but the precise items that might be notified to the Congress have not been formally decided. Those are being considered at the moment. The president's pondering those and I can't foreshadow either the date or the specific items, that might go on.

Q: If the administration fails to get the approval of the Congress for the sales of arms to Jordan and Saudi Arabia, I hope not, and in the meantime there is no progress toward the peace process itself, how the administration is going to deal with the problem of the Middle East, when you have all the leaders of the Arab countries and Israel in the United States during the General Assembly in the coming few weeks?

A: I hope the hypotheses that you outline will not be the ones we have to deal with. There's an irreducible element of conjecture in all foreign policy decisions, but we prefer not to try and specify how we deal with all hypothetical circumstances out in public. Our objective, as I've said before, has been to try and move this process along because we felt this year represented a year of some opportunity. At the same time, we've tried to be helpful to the parties, recognising that they all face internal and external political pressure and it's fair that reason that

when King Hussein was here in the spring, the president indicated our hope and our intention to be helpful to him and provide support. We subsequently, as you know, went to the Congress and asked for supplemental economic assistance for Jordan in substantial quantity. The request for arms is before us, it's under consideration. Our hope, of course, has been that the progress will be made in moving the peace process along and that, of course, would help shape an environment in which the kind of support which we have felt that King Hussein might need would become more politically feasible as well.

Q: Back to the Middle East trouble spot. I have two questions. The first one is there were some reports that Israel supplied its Lance missiles with nuclear warheads. What is your comment about this? And the second one is about Jordan. Israel issued several warnings in the last period to Jordan. Do you think these warnings are justified?

A: On the first question, I'm unaware of any such thing. It sounds extremely debatable.

Q: There were some reports that Israel supplied its Lance missiles with nuclear warheads. How do you view this development?

A: Of course, we're not the ones to ask that question to, but it strikes me as extremely implausible.

Q: You're not concerned if there were nuclear warheads being introduced in the Middle East?

A: I have never heard of any such thing.

Q: The second one is about Jordan. Israel warned Jordan several times in the last two weeks. Do you think these warnings are justified?

A: I'm sorry, who warned who? An Israel warned Jordan several times.

Q: Oh, about terrorist activity. J: Yes. Do you think they are justified?

A: Well, we obviously regret the increase in violent incidents. Because there's no question but that that diminishes the prospects for moving rapidly toward resumption of the peace process. And it's in that context, I think, that we certainly share a regret about the increase in such incidents.

Q: Do you think there is terrorist activity coming from Jordanian territory, from Jordan?

A: I'm not going to engage in an effort to corroborate the details of any particular incident. I don't think we have any doubt but that King Hussein himself has no interest in promoting terrorism. Quite the contrary. But I can't get into trying to analyse the particular details of who's responsible for so do.

Q: So do you think the warnings are justified?

A: All I would comment, as an American official, is that the increase in the resumption of these kind of incidents, is unhelpful, and only to be regretted.

Q: Is the United States considering any American ideas to help solve the Taba problem and has the U.S. been in contact with the parties or will it be in contact with the parties in this regard?

A: We have been in contact with the parties for a long time and to the extent we can offer constructive ideas, we try to do that because of the relationship we have with both the parties. Indeed, when the talks were held, we did have a representative of the State Department present. So we have been engaged, and to the extent we've got ideas we provide them quietly to the parties.

TV & RADIO

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Heart-transplant patient stages 'excellent recovery'

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Arab World's first heart-transplant patient was reported by medical sources on Tuesday to have made "an excellent recovery". 30 days after the operation at Al Hussein Medical Centre.

Brigadier Yousef Al-Jous, the physician in charge of monitoring the patient's convalescence, told the Jordan Times "the recipient's general condition is excellent and he is expected to be discharged from the hospital in two weeks."

"All the patient's physiological parameters are within normal level and he had been given regular doses of cyclosporine and steroids which prevent organ rejection by the recipient's body," Dr. Jous said.

Contacted by telephone, the recipient, Abdullah Khalil, told the Jordan Times he was recovering fast without any disorders.

"I eat, go for walks inside the hospital premises, watch television and read a lot," he said.

The heart of a 26-year-old car-crash victim who had had a brain death, is now functioning in the body of Khalil.

On Aug. 10, a 30-member team, led by Major-General Da'ud Hanania, director of the Royal Medical Services, performed the surgery, the first of its kind in the Middle East.

The patient is being cared for at the intensive care unit (ICU) and Brig. Jous said keeping Khalil under intensive care would enable doctors to keep a tab on the patient and to monitor the organ's reception by the body.

Minister stresses priority for Jordanian employment

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour and Social Development Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan Tuesday made an inspection visit to the Amman Employment Office and was briefed on its function.

The minister was informed on the progress of work in renewing work permits for non-Jordanian workers.

Later, the minister said that strict instructions have been passed on to employment offices not to issue any permits to foreign workers whose Jordanian substitutes are available in the country in order to safeguard public interest.

He emphasised that the ministry aims at finding work for Jordanians first.

The current inspection campaign conducted by ministry teams has revealed the presence of a large number of non-Jordanian workers employed in jobs for which they had no permits.

Afterwards, the minister presided over a meeting at the ministry to discuss ways for distributing JD 100,000 to charitable and voluntary societies in the rural regions, in implementation of the King's directives issued on the eve of Eid Al Adha.

The meeting was attended by the chairman of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS), Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib and other personalities involved in the voluntary service in the country.

Health minister inspects centres in Tafleh district

TAFILEH (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh said that his ministry plans to establish health departments in all districts, to be independent from those in the governorates to offer better services to the local population.

Dr. Hamzeh was speaking during a tour he made Tuesday of health centres in Tafleh district where he met with district Governor Rafeh Al Majali and Tafleh department heads who presented requests for improving health services and the need for specialists to work at the government hospital in the city.

Dr. Hamzeh also held a meeting with doctors who briefed him on the need for an intensive care unit at the local hospital.

The minister emphasised the

need for the establishment of a new hospital in Tafleh but, he said, this can only be implemented when sufficient funds are made available.

"However, at present, the ministry will build an additional wing for the existing hospital," the minister added.

Dr. Hamzeh later visited the health centres at Busira, Jadish and Al Ain Al Baidaa where he also met with doctors and heard about their needs and requests.

The minister voiced appreciation for the efforts being made to build a special emergency unit at the hospital in Tafleh through public contributions.

Dr. Hamzeh was accompanied on the tour by a number of local officials.



His Majesty King Hussein chairs a meeting of Al Bait Foundation in Amman Tuesday. Prince Hassan urged speedy implementation

of His Majesty King Hussein's directives to restore and develop mosques built in memory of the Prophet Mohammad Companions (Petra photo)

Agricultural meeting explores ways to develop animal wealth

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN (Petra) — Agriculture Minister Ahmad Dakqan Tuesday presided over a meeting at the Agricultural Extension Service to look into ways for implementing recommendations and resolutions passed by the Higher Agricultural Council (HAC) on promoting animal wealth.

At the meeting obstacles impeding the process of promoting animal wealth were reviewed and the minister formed four committees to study measures for implementing the HAC resolutions.

The committees which will review poultry breeding, fodder and grazing sectors, are expected to come out within a month with recommendations and suggestions to boost animal production.

Representatives in the committees include private sector, the government, and consumers.

During discussion, participants debated imposing a ban on importing livestock in a bid to protect local production.

They also recommended prohibiting sale of frozen chicken in the market.

Among the decisions adopted earlier by HAC included general administrative procedures. It also embodied plans on investment, financing, manpower, land fertility, water resources and agricultural marketing.

In Damascus, an international



Agriculture Minister Ahmad Dakqan chairs a meeting on development of animal wealth (Petra photo)

conference on animal production and wealth in semi-arid regions was briefed on Jordan's endeavours in promoting animal husbandry.

A working paper presented to the conference by Dr. Walid Siam from the Ministry of Agriculture said that Jordan's animal production represents six per cent of the total national production or 40 per cent of the overall agricultural production in the country.

The working paper warned against the current trend of people's migration from rural to urban regions and the loss of manpower involved in agricultural work.

Crown Prince expedites restoration and renovation of noted Muslim shrines

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday presided over a meeting at the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al Bait Foundation) to discuss a programme for the restoration and development of mosques built in memory of the Prophet Mohammad's Companions.

The restoration was ordered by His Majesty King Hussein in a message beaddressed to the prime minister in August last year.

At Tuesday's meeting, Prince Hassan underlined the importance of this project for the whole Islamic World in general and for Jordan in particular, and paid tribute to King Hussein for his keenness on its implementation.

Prince Hassan called on the government to take speedy measures to implement the project.

King Hussein, in his message to the prime minister, had called for the formation of a special committee to supervise the restoration and maintenance of mosques built in Kingdom to commemorate the Prophet's Companions.

The King also ordered the est-

ablishment of a fund for the implementation of the project and allocated part of his personal allowances for financing the scheme.

He also directed the committee to make a full study on all aspects of a project with the purpose of attracting further funds, defining and laying down the groundwork and designs for carrying out the project in Islamic style.

The committee entrusted with supervising the work, which includes leading Islamic personalities from Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Turkey and Kuwait, visited the sites where the projects will be implemented and formed a technical committee comprising engineers from Arab countries to lay down initial plans for carrying out the project.

The government will embark on implementing the project imm-

ediately, according to a statement issued at the end of the meeting.

The announcement said Prime Minister Zaid Rifai has directed concerned government departments to undertake preparatory work for the project to be implemented in stages, starting with mosques in the Jordan Valley region.

The project entails developing the existing mosques, set up on the graves of the eminent Companions of the Prophet, and building centres for receiving visitors and offering them facilities with the ultimate aim of transforming these sites into historical landmarks as well as Islamic cultural centres.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Rifai, Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali, Al al Bait Foundation President Nassereddin Al Assad, Awaqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, Public Works Minister Mahmoud Al Hawameh and Mr. Rayef Nijem, a former minister of public works.

Rifai congratulates Lutfi

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Tuesday sent a cable of congratulations to Egyptian Prime Minister Ali Lutfi on the occasion of Mr. Lutfi's assuming office. In his cable, Mr. Rifai expressed hope that Jordan and Egypt, under his mandate would maintain strong relations and closer cooperation in the interest of the two countries.

Nsour delivers message to Turkey

ISTANBUL (Petra) — Planning Minister Abdullah Nsour Tuesday presented a message from His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal dealing with joint action in economic fields and cooperation among member nations of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

Dr. Nsour is now in Turkey at the head of a Jordanian delegation to take part in the first meeting of a follow-up committee created by OIC.

RSS signs accords with Ministry of Public Works

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Public Works and the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Tuesday signed two agreements on cooperation in research on building and road construction and on the use of various types of rock in reinforced concrete.

Commenting on the agreements after the signing ceremony, Public Works Minister Mahmoud Al Hawameh said that the agreement is an extension to an earlier one concluded by the two sides.

Under the agreement, Mr. Hawameh said, the RSS will receive help from the ministry in the process of testing building materials and foundations for buildings and the ministry will use the RSS's laboratory facilities to conduct tests on quality control of var-

ious building materials and soil used in all projects undertaken by the ministry in the regions of Amman, Irbid, Mafrq and Zarqa.

Referring to the second agreement, the minister said it calls for the RSS to carry out studies with help from the ministry. Hussein Engineers Association and the South Cement Factory on using pebbles found in streambeds in reinforced concrete.

He said the presence of alkaline flint with the pebbles tend to weaken the concrete in the long run.

The study, he added, is expected to last whole year.

The agreements were signed by Mr. Hawameh and RSS's President Fakhraddin Al Daghestani.



Public Works Minister Mahmoud Al Hawameh Tuesday signs agreement with Italian officials on preparations to launch Amman-Aqaba power lines (Petra photo)

Italy to help in launching Amman-Aqaba power line

AMMAN (Petra) — Italy will help Jordan carry out studies on high-voltage power networks and complete preparations to launch operation of the national 400 kilovolt grid between Amman and Aqaba.

According to an agreement signed Tuesday between the two sides, the project will be conducted through the Italian state-owned Electricity Corporation (ENEL) in cooperation with the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA).

Under the agreement ENEL will provide training to JEA technicians who will be employed on the Aqaba Thermal Power Station

when it becomes operational.

The JD 130,000 project will be financed by the Italian government under a technical assistance programme for cooperation and development, a spokesman for the Italian embassy said.

The spokesman, Dr. Guido Cerboni, said that the agreement had earlier been signed in Rome by representatives of both sides.

A ceremony was held at the JEA to exchange documents on the project and was attended by JEA Director General Mohamad Arafat, Dr. Cerboni and ENEL representative Mr. Gianni Dinari.

Participants were lectured on modern methods for educating young children and about matters

Rifai pledges to meet mayors' demands for more power and revenue

(Continued from page 1)

Ministry of Interior should allocate policemen to each municipality to ensure that urban organisation plans are carried out and that violators of law are punished.

The mayor of South Shuneh, while expressing his municipality's appreciation for various development services recently offered by the Jordan Valley Authority, said almost all of North Shuneh lands that have recently been organised and allotted fall within the boundaries of land owned by the government. He said "There are four authorities who claim that they are responsible for any construction and building and for punishing violators."

Therefore, he said, "Shuneh citizens are confused and do not know which authority they should report once any violation takes place."

Responding to the points, Mr. Rifai said the government intends to set up new government institutions whose main objectives will be to "safeguard public interests which are not based on personal interest and individualism."

"We shall offer all possible support to the municipalities, which are democratic institutions that work under the aim of safeguarding public interests and extending wider services."

"Mayors are elected by the citizens themselves as their representatives," he pointed out.

The cabinet hopes that local municipalities would increase their public services, and effect changes from basic services to productive services that encourage local private sector companies to launch productive projects outside Amman, he said.

These projects would curb immigration, increase the country's revenues and offer new job openings at a time when unemployment is widespread in the Kingdom, the prime minister said.

The premier also promised the provincial governors that the Ministry of Interior will soon establish special police squads to supervise the municipality's interior affairs and to stop violations.

Referring to planning in the Jordan Valley, Mr. Rifai assured

the North Shuneh mayor that the problem of land allotments and distribution would be discussed in all their aspects with the Jordan Valley Authority.

Mr. Rifai also criticised the Ministry of Rural and Municipal Affairs and the Environment for not organising its cooperation with the JVA. Lack of proper cooperation between the ministry and the JVA caused such problems, he said.

Madaba Mayor Ahmad Jutah expressed hope that the establishment of institutions as outlined earlier by Mr. Rifai will be expanded to cover all Jordan's government institutions.

"This way, we can guarantee that policies will not be changed each time a new official is appointed," he said.

Mr. Jutah praised the government's policy of Shura (Islamic advisory council), which the government has encouraged in all municipal elections, expressing hope that the "Shura principle will not be hampered."

Mr. Jutah said opening new schools in municipalities has resulted in financial crises since the respective municipality has to pay 50 per cent of the expenses and the Ministry of Education the rest. He said the ministry should shoulder all such expenses.

A major problem in Madaba Municipality is the lack of cooperation between the municipal authorities and the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA), he said. The JEA constantly collects money from Madaba citizens but does not provide reliable power supply to the people, he charged.

He also expressed hope that more youth clubs and gymnasiums would be set up in the municipality to offer active services and options for the Madaba youth.

Mr. Rifai said that he personally is aware of the problems between the JEA and Madaba Municipality. "I assure you that I will follow up all necessary contacts to make the electricity authority abide by its responsibilities towards the municipality," he said.

The prime minister supported Mr. Jutah's view that the Ministry of Education should be responsible for establishing schools

in all municipalities at its own expenses.

Mayor Juwaimah and Juwaidah Anwar Al Haddid requested that mayor's salaries should be raised on equal terms with other government officials. He also called for the social security service to be applied to mayors and said mayor's powers should be enhanced, especially when it comes to expenditure.

The prime minister promised all mayors that their salaries would very soon be increased and that their authorities would be expanded and social security services would also be applied to all mayors.

Karak Mayor Abdullah Al Dmour said Karak was facing a "disastrous health condition" because "no proper sewerage systems have been established to meet the requirements of the city's population."

On another point, he complained that Karak streets "have not been asphalted since the Ottoman rule and that was 70 years ago."

In response to the complaints, Mr. Rifai said the first part of a Karak sewerage network would be ready in November 1985, while two other similar tenders would soon be floated. He also promised that Karak roads would be asphalted but he urged the city's citizens to maintain its ancient style.

Zarqa Municipal Council President and District Governor Mohammad Al Dibbie complained that the yeast and leather companies in his region "are polluting the whole of Zarqa area, while the Zarqa River is polluted by chemical wastes which are discharged by factories along the river."

The yeast and leather companies "release awful smells and those who enter the city for the first time think its citizens are dirty," he said.

Mr. Dibbie said lands neighbouring Zarqa Governorate are a "natural continuation" of the governorate's future expansion and urban development. "These lands need to be apportioned so as to avoid any future complaints and

violations," he said.

He suggested that both the yeast and leather companies should be given governmental incentives to encourage them to move to another location.

The prime minister replied that in any industrial area, pollution is apt to happen and in various forms.

However, "we shall never order the removal of these two companies out of the area since Zarqa is an industrial city," he said. He also promised that all administrative and land apportioning matters in Zarqa would be solved now that its administrative status has been upgraded to governorate.

"Governorates usually have all necessary government departments, to solve all administrative problems," he said.

The last speaker on Tuesday was Shobak Deputy Mayor, Mohammad Al Baddour. He com-

plained that Shobak Municipality's main problem stemmed from land apportioning.

"It is known that the Ministry of Agriculture has encouraged Shobak citizens to plant apples in their lands, but since there is no land apportioning, no one is interested to do so," Mr. Baddour said. A solution, he said, could be the establishment of a special land and survey department in Shobak since the nearest department is in Ma'an. There are more than 950 agricultural basins in Shobak, he pointed out.

Mr. Rifai replied that a recent amendment passed by both houses of parliament on the Land and Survey Law has introduced numerous modifications, and therefore land apportioning is no more a major problem. He urged the Department of Land and Surveying to send a temporary mission to any municipality whenever

its help is needed in apportioning and allotting lands.

The director general of the Land and Surveying Department agreed to the proposal.

The prime minister announced during the meeting that all municipalities from now on could collect all taxes on buildings inside their boundaries. This job was earlier carried out by the Ministry of Finance.

Mr. Rifai also announced that the Ministry of Public Works would open new roads leading to each municipality at the expenses of the ministry. Schools will also be established at the expense of the Ministry of Education, he said.

Earlier, in his key note address to the meeting, Mr. Rifai said the government intends to incorporate all provinces in drawing up the Five-Year (1986-1990) Development plan.

Syria seeks to consolidate Beirut truce

(Continued from page 1)

Arafat.

About 700 died and 2,500 were injured when Amal besieged Beirut's three Palestinian camps in May and June, seizing Sabra and most of Shatila. This time, neither side appeared to make an effort to advance.

More than 60 people have been killed and about 250 wounded in the fighting around Bourj Al Barajneh which started on Sept. 3, according to newspapers. Hospital officials said three people died and 20 were injured on Monday.

About 60 Palestinian wounded

were believed to be trapped in the camp and would not be evacuated until the ceasefire was firmly established, newspapers said.

Joint patrols of Amal and Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militias cruised west Beirut as part of measures to prevent new fighting between them after a bitter clash last week.

A west Beirut supervisory committee has called on militias to enforce a July security agreement by purging troublemakers, closing offices and withdrawing most of their men.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami and other dignitaries asked for Syrian troops to end militia anarchy in west Beirut.

There has been no response yet, but ex-President Suleiman Frenjeh echoed the call at a press conference on Tuesday, saying he and other leaders had asked the Syrians to come and "put an end to all the criminal acts once and for all."

Mr. Frenjeh called on President Amin Gemayel to make the request but said he was a "sick head."

Reagan manages to delay Congress move

(Continued from page 1)

measures next year if there is no progress on ending apartheid.

The sanctions are otherwise similar except that the bill would immediately ban U.S. imports of kruggerand gold coins and ban new U.S. bank loans to South Africa's government without exceptions.

Mr. Reagan ordered con-

sultation with major U.S. trading partners on banning kruggerand imports and ordered a 60-day study of the possibility of mining a U.S. gold coin. He banned all U.S. bank loans to South Africa's government except those that would improve economic and other opportunities for South Africans of all races.

Both the Reagan and con-

gressional sanctions would prohibit U.S. computer sales to South African agencies administering apartheid and to varying degrees, ban U.S. nuclear exports.

South African newspapers and community leaders said Tuesday the sanctions will be a nuisance but not damaging.

GUVS concludes nurses, teachers training course

AMMAN (Petra) — A 10-day training course for nurses and teachers employed in kindergartens at centres run by the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in the Amman region ended at the GUVS headquarters on Tuesday.

Participants were lectured on modern methods for educating young children and about matters

connected with health and nutrition of boys and girls in pre-school ages.

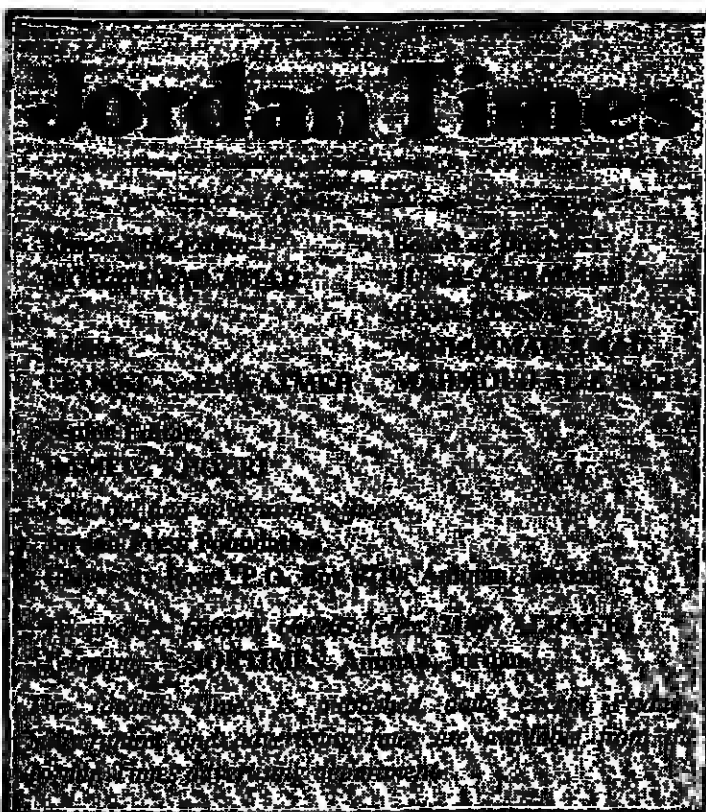
The participants were also oriented on ways to teach children to play music, paint, draw and do other useful activities.

Towards the end of the closing session GUVS President Abdullah Al Khatib distributed diplomas to the 25 participants.

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Ban not for monopoly

EARLIER this month, the government announced a ban on the import of a number of commodities similar types of which are being produced in Jordan. In its announcement, the government said that the measure was deemed necessary to give protection to locally manufactured products and ensure markets for them here and abroad.

It is a good thing for our industries to be given the chance to live up to expectations and to see them supplying the local market with reasonably good quality products that can compete with foreign goods of the types that have been covered in the cabinet decision; but, at the same time, we have to make sure that such a decision by the government does guarantee a positive outcome. In fact, the cabinet decision has aroused a controversy about its effectiveness, despite the fact that leaders of the business community in the country have generally welcomed and voiced support for it.

Some of us may be worried that the absence of some foreign-made products in the local market could destroy chances for creativity and constructive competition — a development that could eventually lead to a drop rather than an improvement in the quality of our products. If this happens, then it would be clear that the consumer would be the first to suffer, but, more importantly perhaps, the treasury could also lose revenue for no good reason at all.

Clearly, the ban on foreign-made commodities was just one form of protecting national products and the government could of course have resorted to increasing customs fees and tariffs on the banned products as an alternative measure to curtailing these imports. But since the decision has already been taken, we hope that our national industry will rise to the occasion, through both applying strict controls on their products and prices and by increasing the efficiency and quantity of their productions in a truly professional manner and in good business climate.

The last thing Jordan wants is a monopoly that satisfies neither the citizens' needs nor their demands.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Resistance will continue

THE RECENT wave of resistance activity inside the Israeli-held Arab territory seems to have caused the Zionists to lose their wits and their ability to behave in a reasonable way. The recent Israeli actions against the Arab population and the statements by Israeli politicians clearly reflect an unbalanced state of mind, obviously brought about by the strong resistance.

After 18 years of occupying other countries' lands by force, the Israelis should realise that the Arab population have all the right to carry out resistance attacks and try by every possible way to liberate themselves and their land.

The Arab people have all the right to resist the building of settlements on their land and the drive to evict them from their homes and territory.

The recent resistance activity which caused the Zionists to lose their heads, reflects the determination of the Arab people to pursue all forms of resistance actions against the occupation authorities which have been carrying out arbitrary measures and committing all sorts of crimes against the local population.

We can forecast more and more resistance activity over the coming weeks but we are sure that the Zionists will resort to repression which in turn will lead to more violence and more instability and insecurity for Israel.

Al Dustour: U.S. double-standard.

PRESIDENT REAGAN'S planned sanctions against South Africa for its racial discrimination policies and inhuman treatment of the black population will mark a turning point in the relations between the Pretoria regime and the Western world.

Throughout its history the white-ruled South Africa has enjoyed the sympathy of the West which bolstered Pretoria's stand through continuous economic investments. No doubt Reagan's planned sanctions against the Pretoria regime will be considered as a condemnation of that regime's policies and is bound to offer moral support for the just struggle of the African people to achieve freedom.

The black majority of South Africa which has been offering sacrifice over the years in the struggle for liberation and equality will see in any Western sanction an impetus for black rebellion and a ray of hope for a brighter future.

This American decision will be in conformity with noble human ideas which should be supported by all people. But we fail to understand why the United States persists in its support for Israel, another regime which practices racial discrimination policies and continues to deny the Arab population their rights and their land.

Washington is aware of the similarity in nature of the two regimes and their collaboration against the Africans and the Arabs, and yet it continues to extend help to the Zionist state and support its actions.

Arabs, watching this dual policy, must be wondering whether they have to wait another 100 years for Washington to reach a conviction that its pro-Israeli policies are all wrong.

Sawt Al Shaab: Iran threatens the Gulf

WHEN THE Iraqi armed forces were involved in repelling Iran's latest offensive in the northern regions the Iranian ambassador in Kuwait was making threatening statements against the Gulf states warning that Iran plans to expand the war and deal the Gulf countries heavy blows militarily and economically.

This Iranian attitude and this persistence in pursuing the war on the Arabs would not have emerged had the Arabs been united and their forces mobilised in the face of external dangers.

The Arabs realise that the Iranians are waging a losing war, one that has been sapping its own resources and those of the Arab countries, and causing wide scale destruction in the region.

But still, they fail to come to agreement on the need to move in force against the Iranians to end their aggression once and for all. Some of the Arabs are in fact encouraging Iran to pursue this war and are helping the Iranian regime and supplying it with military equipment and rockets.

Kahane: A fad or a genuine trend?

By Nayef S. Zubi

ISRAEL'S POLITICAL history resembles that of a schizophrenic patient torn between two incompatible personalities: One brings forth Israel of the Middle East as a normal state willing to live in peace within defined, recognised and secured borders, while the other brings into view Israel as a manifestation of an expansionist ideology, that continuously disregards the notion of borders, and tries to apply non-substantiated historical and Biblical claims to the realm of real politik. Though not sharply defined, nor appropriately divided among proponents, the two contested views have been advanced, and by varying degrees, by Israel's major political streams: The Labour and the Likud. The Labour, as pronounced in its July 1984 manifesto, envisage a territorial compromise in the West Bank in exchange for peace and Arab recognition. The Likud, on the other hand, does not subscribe to the notion of territorial compromise, and considers Palestinians as a fringe to Eretz Israel.

The unyielding position of the Likud in regard to Palestinian rights took at the hands of the Kach's leader Meir Kahane its ugliest face, and was nurtured in the last few years by a multitude of factors which include: The lack of tangible progress in the prospects of peace in the Middle East, the absence of central and dominant political figures especially in the right, the political shifts in the post-1967 war, that among other things brought Likud, and for the first time, to power in 1977, and the inconclusiveness of the last elections that brought into existence a "national unity" government that is in no position to make a bold move towards peace in the Middle East, especially in the absence of a consensus regarding the future of the West Bank and Gaza, and is also occupied with putting its economic house in order and with clearing up the Likud's Lebanon's fiasco. A national unity government, holding a broad and fragile coalition would by definition delegate opposition

to extremist and tiny parties.

The lack of any progress in the prospects of a peaceful settlement in the Middle East continues to feed into this new wave of racism. The fact that Kahane's support is strongest among youth, especially the under-privileged, conforms with the generally observed phenomenon, that in those youths, extremist positions have their easiest and unexploited targets. In Israel's case, this is even being further compounded by the fact that post 1967 Israeli youth have grown up to see *de facto* annexation of the West Bank and Gaza, and the discriminate treatment of the Palestinian Arabs as the natural order of things. A bold peace initiative that favourably responds to the Jordanian-PLO Feb. 11 generous move, will bring to site this cancerous outgrowth, that is threatening the very fabric of Israel's political structure.

One also should note that the rise of this extreme version of new fascism advanced by Kahane, has had its roots in the rise of Likud to power in 1977. The very fact that the Likud was able to seize power after being in the back seat for close to 29 years, ushered a new era and pointed to new directions. The power shift of 1977 towards the Likud block has had far-reaching political, social, and economic implications.

It is also true that the rise in prevalence of the Kach's leader has been promoted by the absence of central political figures especially in the right of the political spectrum. In the departure of Mr. Menachem Begin 23 months ago, and after being a dominant figure in the Israeli political scene for close to six years, the right has lost the charisma of its most ardent, and outspoken politician, Kahane, though in no position to fill Begin's shoes, has been receiving the dividends of Mr. Begin's departure and his self-imposed excommunication.

Starting as it might look, the rise of Kahane's Kach Party in popularity, as polls indicate, is a fad at the moment, though a dangerous one, I might add, and cannot rise to the claim of being an

intelligent representation of the extreme right, as exemplified by the Likud, which continues to pose the most serious threat to our national aspiration, of all Israel's main political blocs. The fascination of citing Kahane's views beginning with his advocacy of expelling two million Palestinians now residing in Palestine, passing by his call to enact a law forbidding inter-racial marriages, and ending with his many other bizarre and racist views such as the lowering of the Arab birth rate, desecration of the Muslim and Christian holy sites, and vandalism of Arab neighbourhoods, should not distract us from the fact that it was the Likud's rise to power in 1977 that provided the fertile ground, and planted the seeds of Kahanism. That is true, irrespective of all the claims of disassociation, by Likud's members of Knesset; Dan Meridor, Meir Shtitrit, and Michael Reiser. It is the Likud's ideology that bases Israel's existence on the Palestinians' non existence and asserts Israel's being on the negation of that of the Palestinians. The difference between Likud and Kahane's Kach Party is in the style and presentation rather than in substance. In the Likud's case, the flamboyant, and irrational style of the publicity maniac, the Brooklyn-born Rabbi, is substituted for by the zealous rhetoric of unqualified historical claims. Dan Meridor, a Begin-Shamir protégé calls for a broad educational drive to eradicate Kahanism through the mass media, and in the language of Israeli leaders, fails to remember that both the Likud leadership, and later Kahane, were using the same dictionary. His memory has faded away in not recalling that it was Mr. Begin who characterised Palestinians in Lebanon as "two-legged animals", and it was Mr. Rafael Eitan, a former chief of staff, who called them "cockroaches in a bottle."

This is not to suggest that Kahane's Kach Party should be discounted as a bubble in the main political stream, and as such does not pose a long run threat. A famous passage of Keynes' "General



Theory", though in a different context, says, "speculators may do no harm as bubbles on a steady stream of enterprise, but the position is serious when enterprise becomes a bubble on the whirlpool of speculation" provides a striking parallel to the potential dangers of Kahanism. The gloomy news reporting the unhappiness of the Chief Rabbinate Council with the ministry of education plans to set up education in democracy by encouraging joint activities by Jewish and Arab youth warrants concern. The trend that gave "the king of Israel" title to Mr. Begin, and then to Mr. Sharon, would he ready to give it to Kahane.

The strengthening of the Kach racist party bears dangers to Israel, as well as to the peace prospects in the Middle East. The history of the fascist movements, which Kahane is trying hard to revive, clearly indicates that the borders of hatred are never well defined. They are always flexible enough to meet the needs of the regimes that instated them in the first place. Dr. Rofei in a recent Jerusalem Post editorial puts it elegantly by saying "Even assuming that a policy of expulsion (of the Palestinians) were possible, who will guarantee that the next to be thrown out are not those Jews whom 'prime minister' Kahane views as enemies of the people, the state, and himself."

A strong Kach Party would also have serious communication problems, not only with the West democracies, but also with the Jewish diaspora at large. The Jewish diaspora, though it does not lack enthusiasm and support for Israel, belongs to the liberal tradition, which structurally stands for compromise. A stronger Kach Party would polarise both sides: The Jewish diaspora and Israel. If states like individuals have a keen sense of their own survival, which is in the case of Israel lies in Israel being an integral part of the Middle East, and not in being an isolated island in a hostile area, then providing the security valve that would arrest such dangerous racism, and cancerous outgrowth, is not a matter of choice, but that of urgency and necessity.

While Kahane's Kach Party would be viewed at this stage as a fringe to Israeli politics, it is sending an alarming signal indeed, indicating that the stalemate in the Middle East is beginning to claim its toll, and as such should be dealt with promptly. The chances for a lasting and just peace in the Middle East if lost perhaps would not recur. A lost chance for peace in the Middle East, will invite unpredictable cycles of instability, after which racist and extremist parties will not be a fad that would burst like a bubble, but will be a

strong and destructive tide. Legislation and any good intentions by Israel's ministries of justice and education don't stop the threats of Kahanism; rather Kahanism is checked into size only when the Israeli leadership stops fiddling with irrelevant issues, such as the names' game, and comes in to grips with the reality, namely negotiating with the only party that can deliver peace: The Palestinians and their legitimate representative the PLO, because if Israel wants to make peace, then with whom shall it make it if not with its immortal enemies, to make use of the words of a recent Jerusalem Post editorial. The closing words of Gustav Cassel in his monograph, "The crisis in the World's Monetary System" apply no better than to the situation in the Middle East.

"Beware lest the days of our civilisation are numbered! Never forget that the hours still left for constructive action may be short!"

Never forget the wise words on the passing hours that Sir Christopher Wren wrote under his sundial in All Souls College:

PEREUNT ET IMPUTANTUR. They pass away and are counted against us."

Nayef S. Zubi is a Jordanian scholar who lives in the U.S. He contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.

Weighting the scales

By Peretz Kidron

THE ACQUITTAL by an Israeli military court of Brigadier Yitzhak Mordechai appears to mark the end of a protracted and murky judicial process arising out of the hijacking of an Israeli bus on 14 April 1984. When Israeli troops stormed the bus, two of the hijackers, together with one of the hostages, were killed instantly. But journalists saw two other members of the hijack team being led away apparently unharmed. The subsequent official communication affirming that all four men were dead — in other words, that the two survivors had died in captivity — led to an outcry. Official

beatings during their interrogation, and although this abuse allegedly did not contribute to their deaths, it was a clear case of "gratuitous violence" against helpless captives. As the senior official present at the interrogation, Mordechai was held responsible. Mordechai's defence rested principally on the argument that the hijackers had been suspected of planting time bombs on the bus and that it had therefore been a matter of vital urgency to extract the relevant information before there was any further loss of life. This defence — admitting that violence was applied — was accepted by the one-man disciplinary tribunal, which then de-

clared Mordechai of all charges.

While legal loose ends appear to have been tied up, the conduct of the case raises a number of disturbing questions. Since the enquiry was held in total secrecy, there was no way of verifying the crucial pathologists' report by independent witnesses. In view of the military establishment's strenuous efforts to protect its own, its refusal to publish testimony submitted during the investigation leaves room to question the veracity of the findings and the validity of Mordechai's acquittal. Above all, there is considerable

disquiet over the enormous political pressures brought to bear on behalf of the accused officer.

While his case was under judicial consideration, a public committee campaigned to rally support for him. The Association of Kurdish Immigrants issued a vigorous statement in defence of Mordechai, who is of Kurdish extraction. Last, but by no means least, just one day before Mordechai went on trial, Israeli newspapers published large photographs in which the smiling brigadier was depicted in the company of the commander-in-chief, Major-General Moshe Levy — a broad hint to the disciplinary tribunal as to where the sympathies of top military brass lay. It is difficult to determine how far this totally unethical intervention contributed to the acquittal.

Three police officers and five agents of the Shin Bet security services await trial for their part in the episode, but after the precedent set by the Mordechai case, they can confidently expect to be let off lightly. Ominously, 16 months of enquiries and investigations leave many questions unanswered. The events surrounding the death of the hijackers "were a riddle, and remain a riddle", commented the prominent dove, Yossi Sarid, adding the warning that "a democratic regime cannot tolerate such riddles".

As Sarid implied, the irregularities surrounding the Mordechai case raise grave questions about Israel's internal regime and



create concern for the rule of law. Israel's judicial system has never been free of political bias. Many individual judges are courageous and independent of mind, but they are bound by legislation carefully framed to further political and ideological aims which often contradict the basic principles of justice and equality before the law. Matters have taken a further turn for the worse in recent months as

of the men were convicted and sentenced to prison, continued support from large sections of public opinion and the political establishment appears to guarantee them an amnesty as soon as is decently possible.

While Jews accused of violence against Arabs are assured of broad public sympathy, a fragile judiciary remains exposed to unceasing rightwing attacks and den-

While Jews accused of violence against Arabs are assured of broad public sympathy, a fragile judiciary remains exposed to unceasing rightwing attacks and den-

increasingly blatant political pressure has been brought to bear upon the courts. The recently concluded trial of the Jewish terrorist network is a case in point, as judges conducted the proceedings against the background of a clamorous public campaign on behalf of the accused. Even though most

irresolution and lack of impartiality in applying the law against right-wing excesses. But those instances in which Zahir has summoned up the courage to discharge his legal duties — such as in authorising publication of the Karp report detailing official complicity in acts of violence by Jewish settlers, or when he has authorised legal action against Jews charged with anti-Arab outrages — have exposed him to bitter attacks from the right wing. Within hours of the military tribunal acquitting Brigadier Mordechai, the weekly cabinet meeting heard a minister demand Zahir's dismissal for allowing the case to proceed at all. Prime Minister Shimon Peres rejected the demand and defended Zahir; but observers wonder how much longer the attorney-general can withstand the constant barrage of vilification directed against him. If Zahir is forced to resign, it will mark a further sharp decline in the rule of law in Israel — Middle East International, London.

Arabs, Israelis — will the rift be healed?

By Mascha Hamilton
Associated Press

HADERA, Israel — While a dozen edgy policemen stood watch, Jews and Arabs gathered in a park one recent evening to sip soft drinks and look at art works. It was a rare moment of accord squeezed into a summer of simmering antagonism and suspicion. "We are not just here to look at pictures. We're here to show that Jews and Arabs can live together," said Ahmed Abu Asbi, mayor of Jatt, a tiny Arab village near the much larger Jewish city of Hadera, 30 miles (48 kilometres) north of Tel Aviv.

A recent upsurge in shootings, stabbings and stone-throwing demonstrations had heightened resentment and fear between the 2 million Palestinians and 3.5 million Jews who live in Israel and the occupied Arab territories.

Commenting on the rising tensions, Israeli army chief of staff Lt.-Gen. Moshe Levy said this week: "I am afraid of a situation in

which Jews and Arabs will be unable to live together, and I see in this a great danger to the survival of Israel."

But promoting coexistence is not easy. "For Jewish kids today, the term 'Arab lover' has become a curseword. They've grown up seeing only that Jews and Arabs fight and kill each other," said reform Rabbi Bruce Cohen, director of Interns for Peace, a privately funded community action group which organised the art exhibit.

Interns for Peace, whose members are mostly American Jews, is one of the few groups in Israel that regularly schedules joint Jewish-Arab activities. Two other institutes offered seminars this summer to guide teachers on how to instruct students about the Arab-Israeli conflict. Education minister Yitzhak Navon said some 5,000 teachers participated, out of 65,000.

"It's not enough. The ministry of education should be doing much more to help teachers with this subject," Ori Geva of the Van

Leer Institute in Jerusalem, a privately funded research facility that concentrates on the Arab-Jewish conflict and education.

A recent study by a university of Haifa professor, John E. Hoffman, showed that in surveys taken during the last 20 years, fewer than 25 per cent of Israel's Jews thought improved Jewish-Arab relations was a major concern, while more than 75 per cent of the Arabs pointed it did.

"Jews have not found it necessary to go beyond a mere declaration of good will. They have yet to face the Arab presence squarely and meaningfully," Hoffman wrote. "Not surprisingly, the same can be said for the Israeli government."

Today, however, some Israeli leaders are worried that the increased hostility could poison the atmosphere for any progress on stalled, U.S.-backed efforts to spark peace talks between Israel and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

"This has been a very tense summer for Jews and Arabs in Is-

rael, and that never bodes well for negotiations between Jews and Arab nations," Mordechai Bar-On, a left-wing member of parliament, told the Associated Press.

"The extremists and fanatics on both sides are having their day, making peace talks impossible," Bethlehem mayor Elias Friej, a moderate West Bank Palestinian, said in an interview.

This summer's tensions stem from a series of attacks that have claimed several Jewish lives since May and subsequent Israeli crackdown that has included deportations and imprisonment without trial of Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza.

Israeli analysts say Palestinian youths in the occupied West Bank have carried out most of the attacks, acting on their own initiative. The youths, have grown up under Israeli occupation, are more determined than their elders to end Jewish rule but feel they have little hope of significant outside help. And they have taken note of Israel's retreat from Lebanon under attacks from Lebanese res-

istance. These sources also say many Arab prisoners released in May and later are in the West Bank and have fomented some of the violence.

The killings prompted several days of violent anti-Arab protests in July in the northern Israeli town of Afula, and fueled a growing movement around Rabbi Meir Kahane, who advocates expelling Arabs from all Israeli-occupied territory as well as from Israel.

On Aug. 31, Israel's Arabs responded with a rally in Um Al Fahm, Israel's largest Arab town, to protest what they called growing racism and their status as second-class Israeli citizens.

"We get lower paying jobs and our towns get less government money. But we're tired of being discriminated against. We are not going to sit like mice in our holes," mayor Mahmoud Hashem said angrily as he marched along his town's winding streets.

In the southern desert town of Beersheva, doctors, and nurses at dormitories adjoining Soroka

hospital called a news conference Sept. 1 to tell reporters they had been attacked by a gang of local Jewish youths.

"When they heard us speaking Arabic, they started shouting 'dirty Arabs, get out.' They began throwing stones at us and biting us with sticks," a nurse, Walid Khatib, told the Yediot Ahronot newspaper.

In the current atmosphere, even benign events like the art exhibit have been condemned by some and avoided by others.

"The police in Hadera initially didn't want us to hold the art fair. They were worried there might be trouble," Rabbi Cohen said. "And we had to cancel several of our events this summer after both Arab and Jewish parents refused to send their children."

But Cohen said he will continue to schedule art fairs for Israel's Jews and Arabs. "We must learn to live together in Israel first," he said. "Otherwise, peace in the region will never be more than a piece of paper."

Kateb Yacine — a writer of spoken Arabic — concerns himself over women and language issues in Algeria

Kateb Yacine, who was born in 1929 in Algeria, went to school until the age of 15, when he took part in the first anti-colonial demonstration at Sétif in 1945. He was expelled from school and sent to prison where he narrowly escaped being sent before a firing squad. When he left prison he chose a life of wandering and devoted himself to poetry. He is the author of a monumental oeuvre, the high points of which is his novel "Nedjma", published in 1956 by Seuil. He was in Paris recently for the film that Dominique Colonna has made about him and his country. Here, Kateb Yacine talks to Taher Ben Jelloun about himself, his work, his country and especially the condition of women in Algeria. "When you go to Algeria," he said, "people would come up to you and say: 'You, you've said you're a writer. That means you say what you feel, so then listen to me.'" Since returning to live and work in Algeria, Yacine has often been questioned in this way. People want him to listen to them, especially as he no longer writes books but constructs theatrical entertainments — it's a real collective enterprise — with a company of players. Yacine has practically stopped writing in French and will probably never write in classical Arabic either. He has found in his country, among his people, a new language, a spoken language, or oral poetry, which the company of players he has been directing for the last ten years utilises in songs and readings.

Taher Ben Jelloun talks to Kateb Yacine

ON MY return to Algeria in 1971, I met Ali Zamoum, who was director of vocational training at the Labour Ministry, a November 1 veteran (November 1, 1954 when the FLN insurrection started) and an authentic member of the Algerian resistance. He proposed that I take charge of a theatrical group. That was the turning point. I didn't know I could write the Arabic ordinary people spoke.

The first good thing we mounted was "Mohammad, pack your bags!", a play on emigration. We did a five-month tour of France with it and it turned out to be a very big hit. Some 70,000 immigrants saw it. I wrote the first scene in French. The rest I wrote with the players in the language of the people. Eight months of work, day and night. The ideas came tumbling out from all sides.

Later we crisscrossed Algeria for five years and played to a million spectators. We had the backing of the labour minister. When he quit, we were dropped, left without even a theatre. I found myself with nine players in my two-roomed apartment. So we went 500 kilometres from Algiers to Sidi-Bel-Abbes. They thought they could break up our company in this way. We didn't have a coach for getting around in. But we stayed put. The output dried. There was silence about us, about our work. We never made it on television, apart from a solitary reference. But it was hard to destroy us. The main thing is we're still around.

When you write plays, especially in the language people speak, you touch sore spots. A libellous attack was even made on us, which tried to make out that "Mohammad" was aimed at the prophet and not the emigrant worker. In 1977 the Muslim Brothers prevented us from performing in Algiers. We were threatened and we couldn't put the play on. The so-called Muslim Brothers swarmed on to the stage where we were to start and began to pray. They had their way by terrorising everybody.

This is the result of the existing emptiness. When the forces of progress are prevented from expressing themselves and working the fantasies fill the vacuum and occupy the ground. It's a danger created by those who prevent people like us from doing our work. But they have lost out. The first resistance to the so-called Muslim Brethren came from girls from Muslim students at Ben-Akroun University's halls of residence. It is no accident that it is girls who resist best.

My mother was really fantastic. She had an extraordinary turn of phrase in Arabic. Her father was

an educated man who gave lessons in Arabic to her brothers. He ignored his daughter. But my mother would listen behind the door and secretly learned Arabic. Her father finally took her into his class.

We have a deep-seated sense of guilt about women. It begins with the mother. The Maghrebian man realises very quickly the state to which his mother is reduced. Women are oppressed. This can be seen every day. Here's an example: My sister is a teacher in a small village and lives in an apartment that goes with the job. Her husband took a second wife and wanted her to live under the same roof. My sister said "no". I myself went to see the justice minister. It came to nothing. My sister could never get an appointment with the prosecutor because she has asked for a divorce. Her husband did not succeed in imposing his second wife on her, but he is nonetheless polygamous, and that's serious.

In Tunisia, women are better off than in Algeria. There is a 13-point tract put out by the Islamists proclaiming the "Islamic republic" in Algeria. One of the points equates the working women with a prostitute. Women have had acid thrown in their faces because they wore trousers. The government does not fulfil its obligations towards women. Right-wing fanatics are using religion as a cover. But women are defending themselves. The other day, the magazine *Algerie Actualite*, published a fantastic letter by a woman reader on the subject of "Ramadan". There is a fight going on in our country.

From the time a girl is born, she is received without joy. She's the blessed martyr. Until she is married off, she is regarded as a "time bomb" that could shatter the patriarchal order. Women are speaking up. And even when they hold their tongues, their silence heralds a storm. But this silence generates words.

I wrote a play, "Voices of Women", on a commission from the *walli* (government representative) of Tlemcen for a son-et-lumiere entertainment. I've read Ibn Khaldun's history of the Berbers and constructed a concrete text, an action text based on Algerian history. The *walli* didn't appreciate it. At the same time there was a company of young girls in Tlemcen who were acting in my play. "Powder of Intelligence". I have worked with high-school girls. We tagged on a bit from "Mohammad, pack your bags!" in Arabic and staged the play. Young girls from middle class homes could be seen blaspheming on stage.

Since independence, they have been trying to impose Arabic lit-



Kateb Yacine

erature at all costs. We produced "The Corpse Surrounding" in classical Arabic and it was a total flop. A government that has such an extraordinary instrument like television at its disposal but does not bother to make itself understood, for newspapers are written in literary Arabic which the people don't understand. How strange. We have a parasitical state bourgeoisie which is imposing on the people a language that it doesn't even use itself.

Where we scored was in the theatre. All the theatrical companies use colloquial Arabic. Independent Algeria has also cut two hours from the time devoted to teaching Tamazight (the Berber language). This is a step backwards compared with what happened in colonial times. The country's unity is not damaged by letting this language live. I didn't suspect there were people in Algeria who understood neither Arabic nor French.

After all, Tamazight is 1,000 years old. Television gives lessons in English, but not Tamazight. It's a language that has no status. For a little girl who sings in Tamazight to be forced to sing in Arabic is traumatic. Then there were the incidents at Tizi-Ouzou in 1980 where the government prevented Mouloud Lammeri from holding a meeting. Students protested and they had the entire population's backing. The repression was harsh. Students' theses were torn up. But all that didn't matter. The government realised it had to address the problem, and it became a file among so many others. Fortunately, Chadli made a speech in which he pointed out that Algerian history didn't begin with the Arabs.

I rebelled against French Algeria, and I rebel against an Arab Muslim Algeria. Language and religion are used to truss people up. I'm neither an Arab nor a Muslim. I'm Algerian. Let's first come to terms with Algeria. It's said that it's important to be understood in other Arab capitals. But what about one's own people? Why not be understood by them first? I rebel against this fraudulent notion of an "Arab nation". There are dialects in all the Arab countries. Let us be ourselves without barring ourselves behind doors and windows.

Two wounds — language and the status of women — opened up at the same time and in the same year, 1980. It was more than a coincidence. Language is the mother. If you take my mother from me, what's there left for me?

If these two problems are not settled, Algeria will not, cannot, be. The women's movement and the Tizi-Ouzou movement (to give the Berber language its rightful place) are threatened with all sorts of manipulation. The independence of the two movements must be respected and they must be taken seriously: Tamazight, the first historically constituted language, must be taught; and women must be given a charter.

I should have liked to keep on writing. I miss writing in French. Young people often come to see me and I talk to them. That's Algeria: The public is thirsty. You have to see young people and meet their expectations. If I could get five or six months of quiet I could complete a work of research on the French language.

If today I write a book in French and try to get it published in Algeria, there's very little chance of my succeeding, because when I write it is to talk about burning and sensitive issues, to grasp prickly nettles. If I have a book published in France, that too is a setback for me, for Algeria. I have to knock on France's door once more. "It's as if we hadn't made any progress. But if things go on this way, 'I'll have to do it."

There is currently an explosion of talent, especially poetic talent, in Algeria. I know one young poet, Lamara, whose collection of poems had been accepted by Algerian society as a whole, but he has been waiting for years to be published. There are no more magazines in which such young people can express themselves.

Young Oranese have pooled their pocket money to bring out a quality magazine called *Voix Multiples* (Many Voices). They need to be encouraged. I consider Rachid Mimouni's latest book, "Tombeza", to be a literary event. He lives and works in Algeria. When it came to having something important published, he had to turn to a French publisher. The book was boycotted in Algeria. There was a total silence over it, apart from one article in the newspaper put out by the youth and sports ministry. It's young people who have been talking about the book.

Why ignore a book? Why don't they let us express ourselves. The theatrical company is going to try to bring out an independent publication. We must not be reduced to producing *sanitized* publications. If all the doors are shut, there'll be literature under every burrow.

The Prophet's message to Muslims

The ascent of Arafat on August 25 marked the culmination of this year's Haj and the ultimate in a Muslim's life. Following is the message which the Prophet Mohammad (S.A.W.) delivered to the gathering at Arafat fourteen centuries ago:

"All praise be to Allah. We glorify Him and seek His help and pardon; and we turn to Him. We take refuge with Allah from the evils of ourselves and from the evil consequences of our deeds. There is none to lead him astray whom Allah guides aright, and there is none to guide him aright whom He leads astray. I bear witness that there is no God but Allah alone; having no partner with Him, and I hear witness that Muhammad is His bondman and His Messenger. I admonish you. O bondman of Allah! to fear Allah and I urge you to His obedience and I open the speech with that which is good.

Ye people! Listen to my words: I will deliver a message to you, for I know not whether, after this year, I shall ever be amongst you here again. O people! Verily your blood, your property and your honour are sacred and inviolable until you appear before your Lord, as this day and this month is sacred for all. Verily you will meet your Lord and you will be held answerable for your actions. Have I not conveyed the message? O Allah! Be my witness.

He who has any trust with him be should restore it to the person who deposited it with him.

Beware, no one committing a crime is responsible for it but himself. Neither the son is responsible for the crime of his father, nor the father is responsible for the crime of his son.

O people! Listen to my words and understand them. You must know that a Muslim is the brother of the Muslim and they form one brotherhood. Nothing of his brother is lawful for a Muslim except what he himself allows willingly. So you should not oppress one another. O Allah! have I not conveyed the message?

Behold! all practices of paganism and ignorance are now under my feet. The blood-revenges of the Days of Ignorance are remitted. The first claim on blood I abolish is that of Ibn Rabi'ah Ibn Harith who was nursed in the tribe of Sa'd and whom the Hudhayl killed.

Usury is forbidden, but you will be entitled to recover your principal. Do not wrong and you shall not be wronged. Allah has decreed that there should be no usury and I make a beginning by remitting the amount of interest which Abbas b. Abd al-Muttalib has to receive. Verily it is remitted entirely.

O people! Fear Allah concerning women. Verily you have taken them not the security of Allah and have made their persons lawful unto you by words of Allah! Verily you have got certain rights over your women and your women have certain rights over you. It is incumbent upon them to honor their conjugal rights and, not to commit acts of impropriety which, if they do, you have authority to chastise them, yet not severely. If your wives refrain from impropriety and are faithful to you, clothe and feed them suitably.

Behold! Lay injunctions upon women but kindly. O people! Listen and obey though a mangled Abyssinian slave is your amir if he executes (the ordinance of) the Book of Allah among you.

O people! Verily Allah has ordained to everyman the share of his inheritance. The child belongs to the marriage-bed and the violator of wedlock shall be stoned. He who attributes his ancestry to other than his father or claims his clientage to other than his masters, the curse of Allah, that of the angels, and of the people be upon him. Allah will accept from him neither repentance nor righteousness.

O people! Verily the Satan is disappointed at never being worshipped in this land of yours, but if he can be obeyed in anything short of worship he will be pleased in matters you may be disposed to think of little account, so beware, of him in your matters of religion.

Verily, I have left amongst you the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of His Apostle which if you hold fast, you shall never go

astray. And if you were asked about me, what wanted you say? They replied: "We bear witness that you have conveyed the message, and discharged your ministry."

The Holy Prophet addressed the assembly again the next day (Dhu al-Hijjah 10 A.H.) and besides repeating some of the important points of the previous address, he threw a good deal of light on some new questions.

As usual, he opened his oration praising Allah and expressing his gratitude to Him.

"O people! Verily the intercalation (of a prohibited month) aggravates infidelity. Thereby the unbelievers are led to wrong. For they make it lawful one year and forbid it in another year to be in conformity with the number (of months) which Allah declared unlawful so they consider violable that which Allah declared to be inviolable and they consider inviolable what Allah declared to be violable.

Verily the time has revolved in its own way from the day when the heavens and the earth were created. The number of months to Allah is twelve of which four are sacred; three are consecutive — Dhu al-Ja'dah, Dhu al-Hijjah, Muharram, and Rajah which is between Jumadah and Sha'ban.

O people! Do you know what day it is, what territory it is, what month it is?"

To this the people answered: "The day is the day of sacrifice; and the territory is the sacred territory, the month is the sacred month." At each reply the Holy Prophet said:

"So I apprise you that your lives, your property and your honour must be as sacred to one another as this sacred day, in this sacred month, in this sacred town.

And your slaves! See that you feed them with such food as you eat yourselves; and clothe them with the clothes that you yourselves wear. And if they commit a fault which you are not inclined to forgive, then part with them for they are the servants of Allah and are not to be chastised.

Behold! listen to me. Worship your Lord; offer prayers five times a day; observe fast in the month of Ramadan; make pilgrimage to the House (Kaaba); pay readily the Zakah on your property and obey whatever I command you, only then you will get into the heaven.

Let him that is present convey it unto him who is absent. For happily, many people to whom the message is conveyed may be more mindful of it than the audience."

The Holy Prophet took upon the thread of his oration the next day also and added:

"O people! Verily your Lord is one and your father is one. All of you belong to one ancestry of Adam and Adam was created out of clay. There is no superiority for an Arab over a non-Arab and for a non-Arab over an Arab; nor for white over the black nor for the black over the white except in piety. Verily the noblest among you is he who is the most pious; (xix: 13)

Behold, the nearer ones of you should convey the message to the remoter ones. I have conveyed the message."

Then looking up to the heaven, he said: "O Lord! I have delivered the message and discharged my ministry."

"Yes," cried all the people crowding round him. "Yes, verily you have."

"O Lord! I beseech Thee bear Thou witness unto it."

And with these words, the Prophet concluded his address.

He alighted from his camel and performed the noon and afternoon prayers together. It was at this time that the verse regarding the completion of religion was revealed to him:

This day I have perfected for you your faith, and completed My favor upon you, and I am well-pleased with Islam as your religion. (vi:3)

The Prophet immediately recited this verse to all those who were present on this occasion.

Austrian minister lends a listening ear

By Regina Murgoth

Reuter

VIENNA — "Minister, do you know what? My nerves are completely wrecked," an Austrian woman complained to Interior Minister Karl Blecha on the telephone, addressing him as if he were a neighbour.

The caller, from the southern province of Carinthia, was one of thousands who have poured out their troubles to Blecha since he set up a phone service to answer queries two years ago.

"Everybody said 'now he's gone off his head'," Blecha said, recalling reactions when he announced his daily talk-in. However, it turned out to be a great success.

A recent study showed one in three Austrians was now aware of the service. Blecha told a Reuter correspondent when attended one of the talk-in sessions. He said that to date it had received 23,000 calls, a quarter of them complaints.

The service is aimed at countering a widespread lack of confidence in bureaucratic institutions, which date back to the days of the Austro-Hungarian empire. There were also a growing number of people who doubted that individual problems would be dealt with satisfactorily by the authorities, Blecha said.

The service gave Austrians an opportunity to tell a leading politician how they thought things should be run, he added.

But the minister was soon inundated with a flood of inquiries and found the hour a day he dedicated to the service during the working week was not enough.

So in March 1983 the operation was extended. The telephone lines are now staffed 24 hours a day.

The queries cover a broad range of issues. The Carinthian caller, for example, complained she had been stopped by police for drunken driving although she was sober.

"My dear lady, we shall certainly look into the matter," Blecha told her with his true Austrian charm. An aide, who listened to the calls and took notes, will deal with the case and contact the relevant authorities.

No-one is brushed off with phrases like "sorry, we are not responsible in your case" or "there's nothing we can do", and callers usually get a response within at least two weeks.

A 48-year-old unemployed Viennese woman telephoned to ask Blecha to help her find work at one of the city's many sausage stalls, because she said she needed a reference for such a job.

"I can hardly believe that ...," Blecha replied. He explained the ministry was not a job centre but promised one of his aides would try to help.

Blecha's aide, Ulrike Michel, a 27-year-old lawyer, said parents often call on behalf of children, who are in trouble with the police or drugs and need help. Others complain about pollution or noise, demanding swift action from the authorities.

Many complain about the police, Michel said, adding that most cases prove to be unfounded.

But there are exceptions. Earlier this year, the service was con-

tacted after a Vienna student was detained for handing in a complaint to a police station. A popular Austrian television programme, the *Volksanwalt* (people's advocate), which deals with legal complaints against the authorities, followed up his case. Under Austrian law all institutions must report to the *Volksanwalt* lawyers and give them access to any information they require.

The student told viewers he was detained when, on a friend's behalf, he tried to deliver a written complaint at a police station. He said the officer refused to accept it — although the programme's legal experts said he should have done so.

The student quoted the officer as saying, "push of or we'll detain you". He refused to go, was detained for several hours and was so shocked he started to cry, he said.

Blecha, who is also in charge of Austria's police and was invited to participate in the programme, apologised for the officer's behaviour.

Blecha said he had felt "no deterioration" after walking for 347 days. "I have lost about a total of 10 pounds (4-1/2 kg). I feel a higher energy level and my feet are holding up pretty well."

About 1,500 people have walked with him for a while, from a cancer patient in her sixties to a three-year-old boy. Swiftgall has published a book, entitled "Fitness walking".

He said it was difficult to evaluate the success of his journey. "I meet a lot of sceptics and disbelievers. That used to bother me but now I sort of shrug it off."

Instead, he thinks about the people who do listen to what he preaches. "If just one per cent of the people I have reached were to do anything different in terms of their physical fitness as a result of this walk, then it would be worth it."

And with that, he walked off into the sunset, or rather, Rhode Island.

Swiftgall walks across U.S.

By Catherine Arnst

Reuter

BOSTON — If the jogging craze passed you by, never fear. Rob Swiftgall, the self-styled messiah of walking, is spreading the word that a daily stroll is better than running.

To prove his point, 37-year-old Swiftgall has spent the better part of a year walking through America in his own "human performance experiment". His final goal is to cover 50 states, or 11,600 miles (18,600 km), in 50 weeks.

As he walks, he talks. Schoolchildren, civic groups, police and passers-by have all heard his message that walking is the key to good health.

"Walking is the best form of exercise for the average person because it is safe, easy, inexpensive and requires no training," Swiftgall told Reuters during a recent stop in Boston.

"If you walk one mile (1.6 km) a day, without making any other changes in your diet, you will lose seven pounds (three kg) in a year."

Swiftgall, a chemical engineer from Newark, Delaware, 10 years ago was 25 pounds (11 kg) overweight himself. He aims his message primarily at the estimated 60 million adults and 15 million teenagers in the United States who are overweight.

"I am not appealing to athletes

but to people who are not in an exercise programme now," said the tall, lean Swiftgall.

The same number of calories are burned whether a person walks or jogs a mile. Although jogging can be twice as fast, walking uses more muscles.

A brisk walking pace of about four to five mph (six to eight kph) can actually burn about 100 calories more than a moderate 5-1/2 mph (nine kph) jog, according to researchers at the University of Massachusetts's Exercise Science Department, the other participants in Swiftgall's experiment.

Every six weeks, Swiftgall takes time out from his journey and flies to Massachusetts for an intensive two days of study by scientists and physicians trying to measure the effect on the human body of taking some 20 million steps in a year.

"In a sense, Rob has committed his body to science," said Dr. Frank Katch, head of the research team.

By September 5, when Swiftgall plans to finish his walk in New York City, Katch said "we will have done more extensive testing on one human being than has ever been done before."

The tests include blood analysis, foot and leg X-rays and cat scans and an assessment of his cardiovascular system. His body fat is measured, his gait is photographed with a high-speed camera and his

emotional state is analysed. Swiftgall also keeps a detailed journal on the road, recording what he eats, how far he walks, how long he sleeps.

His usual routine is to rise at 5 a.m. and walk about 32 miles (51 km) a day, averaging four mph (six kph), seven days a week. By the time he reached the 10,200-mile (16,400 km) mark in Boston, he had weathered 22 blisters, three pairs of shoes, 500 interviews and was \$166 richer, thanks to change picked up along the side of the road.

The entire journey, however, will cost about \$100,000. It is being financed by Rockport shoes and Gore-Tex fabrics who supply his equipment, including a waterproof but "breathable" suit and experimental socks that cost about \$1,000 a pair to develop.

He carries only a five-pound (two kg) pack with him, has no support vehicle following him and must count on motels or the kindness of strangers for his sleeping quarters.

Swiftgall's commitment to walking was a long time coming. He described himself as an average sedentary American until his father and three other relatives died of heart disease in 1976.

That year Swiftgall started exercising with such fervor that by 1981 he quit his job and formed the Foundation for the Development of Cardiovascular Health.

lth, a one-man crusade for physical fitness.

Swiftgall started with jogging and in 1983 ran 10,600 miles (17,000 km) in nine months — not quite a record but an impressive distance.

But walking, he believes, is a far more accessible sport than running for most people, although he hopes his example will encourage others to walk a few miles (kms) a week rather than a few hundred.

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Lenin's statue to look over Moscow

By John Kampener

Reuter

MOSCOW — The Soviet capital is getting its first large-scale statue of Lenin, standing atop a 70-foot (20-metre) monument and sculpted by an artist who was born on the day of the bolshevik revolution.

The Soviet Union has no shortage of monuments to the founder of the Soviet state. Streets, buildings and cities bear his name — but surprisingly Moscow has never had a major statue of him, though Communist Party officials have tried for years to rectify the omission.

Sculptor Lev Kerbel, who drew his first portrait of a Communist leader at the age of six, has been working on the project for more than 20 years.

His statue is the ultimate testimony to a school of art, based on a clear political message, in which the Soviet Union leads the world. Lenin called it "monumental propaganda."

The 28-foot (eight-metre) high bronze statue on a large granite slab holding 14 figures in revolutionary poses will form the focal point of a huge new complex in October square within sight of the Kremlin. Standing in the middle of a small park, it will be surrounded by plush modern offices.

Its unveiling will coincide with the anniversary of the 1917 revolution on November 7.

In 1934, Josef Stalin ordered a cathedral to be blown up to make way for a 1,000-foot (300-metre) high pyramid to house the Soviet government, crowned with a huge Lenin statue.

But the project ran into trouble when engineers found the soil too soft. To cover the gaping hole, city planners built an outdoor swimming pool, which still stands.

The new statue has required similar feats of engineering. According to Kerbel, who also had a major say in the design of the October square complex, it took five tanks to wrench the granite block from the face of a Ukrainian quarry.

Standing by a model of his work at his spacious Moscow studio, he spoke about the role of art in Soviet society with passion and eagerness.

"I recognise only art which makes man noble, which elevates his best feelings. Abstract art is only decoration," he said.

The 67-year-old sculptor pointed to his model, with the statue of Lenin above the 14 figures of ordinary people in strident poses: A peasant soldier, a bolshevik sailor, a tribesman, a newspaper boy, a woman.

Kerbel, winner of several hero's medals, reminisced about the early days of the revolution with pride. "I remember the first five-year-plan, the first (collectively-run) factory, all bore out of the rubble of the Tsarist times."

His first professional achievement was a statue of the revolutionary poet Vladimir Mayakovsky. Since then his works have grown more elaborate, more monumental.

Kerbel has travelled widely, mostly to Third World and Communist countries. He recently finished a huge bust of Marx, part of a major development project in Karl-Marx-Stadt in East Germany.

In World War Two he served in the army during the German occupation of Smolensk and later transferred to the navy as a submariner. He recounted with enthusiasm exploits with allied troops in liberated Berlin.

His expression immediately changed as he turned to current politics. "The threat of nuclear war has affected everyone. It causes drug addiction, alcoholism. People weak in spirit try to hide from it. But as artists we cannot hide from it. When one bomb drops there will be no Venice, no Rome, no New York, no magnificent museums or libraries," he said.

The roads from the Ukraine to Moscow, reinforced with steel sheets, could barely support the 400-tonne granite block but it finally reached Moscow and now stands in its resting place shrouded in blankets and guarded constantly.

Romanian boss seeks first win over England in today's match

LONDON (R) — Romanian Soccer Coach Mircea Lucescu is under no illusions about the size of the task facing his team at Wembley Wednesday, for he rates World Cup opponents England as the best team in Europe at present.

Victory for England would make them virtual certainties to qualify for Mexico from group three, while Romania face stiff opposition from Northern Ireland for the second qualifying place.

Lucescu has faced England four times as a player and coach without a victory to his credit, and he readily admits he would be more than happy with a draw at Wembley.

"England are the best team in the group, and we are the second best. Obviously we shall try to win if we can, but a draw would be a good result for us," Lucescu said. "England have caught and passed sides like France and Italy. Latin countries dominated the last European championship, but I was sure a revival of the Anglo-Saxon style of football would follow."

"Lessons were learned, and now England are the best in Europe along with the West Germans."

Lucescu may be trying to lull his opponents into a false sense of their own importance, but there is no doubt the current England team is the best they have produced since the last time they went to Mexico in 1970.

They are unbeaten with eight points from five games, with an impressive goal tally of 15-1, though they were held to 0-0 and 1-1 draws in their last two away games in Romania and Finland.

AC Milan striker Mark Hateley, though struggling to regain full fitness, has emerged as a daring and skilful attacker of true international quality, while goalkeeper Peter Shilton and midfielder Bryan Robson have few

peers.

Lucescu may not name his line-up until shortly before kick off because two key players, central defender Gino Iorgulesco and midfielder Ladislau Boloni, Romania's most capped player with 84 appearances, are both suffering from leg injuries.

The biggest danger to England will be 20-year-old student Gheorghe Hagi, one of the most exciting new talents in Europe and a player capable of winning any game single-handed.

But with the coastline of Mexico almost within sight, it is hard to see England slipping up at this stage.

With England near-certainties to win the section and Romania narrow favourites to fill the runners-up spot, the Northern Irish need to win and win well to

remain in contention.

Manager Billy Bingham, who guided Northern Ireland to unexpected success in the 1982 finals in Spain, has two injury worries. Midfielder Sammy McIlroy has a painful foot blister and defender Mal Donaghy has a slight knee injury.

Both are expected to be fit to play but Bingham is still disappointed that Newcastle United winger Ian Stewart has pulled out.

Bingham described Stewart's decision not to travel to this sunny Aegean port city as a disappointment, and added: "But what can you do if someone says he's not fit?"

Turkey have lost all four ties to date, scoring just one goal and conceding 15.

Current group three standings:

	played	won	drawn	lost	goals for	against	points
England	5	3	2	0	15	1	8
Romania	5	2	2	1	8	4	6
Northern Ireland	5	3	0	2	7	5	6
Finland	7	2	2	3	6	12	6
Turkey	4	0	0	4	1	15	0

Kasparov opens third game with another surprise move

MOSCOW (R) — Challenger Garry Kasparov launched into the third game of the world chess title rematch Tuesday with another surprise opening against Anatoly Karpov.

Avoiding the Nimzo-Indian defence on his third move, which contributed to Karpov's defeat in the first game of this series, Kasparov reverted to the move order of their previous match, which was abandoned last February.

Experts watching the game in Moscow's grand Tchaikovsky Concert Hall speculated that Kasparov's opening in the first game was aimed to surprise but that he was now ready to begin testing the champion's main lines.

Karpov chose the Queen's Gambit declined Tuesday, a solid classical defence that both players used in the last match with monotonous success.

Kasparov's careful preparation

in the early stages of the game was soon evident as he produced a novelty on the seventh move that plunged his opponent into deep thought.

The move was hardly deadly but caused another nervous upset for Karpov, who has appeared apprehensive in the match so far and acknowledged Kasparov's superiority in its initial stages.

Kasparov arrived first on Tuesday and was welcomed with loud cheers and rhythmic stamping among supporters from his home region in the southern republics.

Karpov, playing in his hometown, was by contrast greeted with short, polite applause from an audience which had been expected to be more partisan.

Under new rules formulated to avoid a repetition of the inconclusive 48-game marathon that was called off in February, the current series is limited to 24 games.

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ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE WATER AUTHORITY Contracts 7B/12/85, 7C/12/85 ZARKA RUSSEIF WATER AND WASTE WATER PROJECTS

Further to the announcement published on Aug. 4, 1985 the new date for submission for contracts 7B/7C is not later than 12:00 noon Jordan local time on Saturday Sept. 28th, 1985, instead of Sept. 21st, 1985. Prequalification results will be announced on Sat. Sept. 14th 1985.

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President
Water Authority

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Swiss, Irish clash in vital World Cup match

ZURICH (R) — Switzerland and Ireland clash in their World Soccer Cup qualifier in Bern Wednesday knowing defeat will almost certainly dash the losers' dreams of reaching the Mexico finals.

Both teams have five points from five matches although the Irish have a far superior goal difference. Denmark, who had group six with six points from four games, are favourites to qualify along with the Soviet Union, who play their last three games at home.

The Swiss started their campaign in brilliant style, amassing five points from the first three matches.

But two crushing away defeats, 4-0 in Moscow and 3-0 in Dublin, has left their defence in tatters and Swiss coach Paul Wolfisberg is also dogged with injury problems in attack.

Top goal-scorer Claudio Sulser is still sidelined through injury while 17-year-old Alain Sutter, who was included in the squad after just six first division matches, and Hanspeter Zwickler from St. Gallen have been laid low by influenza.

Wolfisberg has recalled Neuchâtel Xamax centre forward Robert Luthi, who has hit 12 goals in seven league games, in his elusive search for a goal-scorer in the Sulser mould.

Meanwhile Poland need only draw against Belgium Wednesday to win a place in their fourth consecutive World Cup finals, but their coach is looking for nothing less than victory after recent lacklustre performances.

"Although a draw is enough to get us to the finals, we will play to win against Belgium as an attitude of 'it is enough not to lose' could be disastrous," Antoni Piechaczek said.

Poland, who have a superior goal difference, and Belgium both have been points from five games in group one.

The group winners will qualify directly while the second-placed country tackle the Netherlands for a place in Mexico next year.

Belgian trainer Guy Thys has recalled former captain Eric Gerets to his side for the game in the Silesia Stadium in the southern city of Chorzow, known as the "witches' cauldron" because of the noise of the 70,000 capacity crowd.

Gerets was banned from soccer for his part in the standard Liege bribery scandal. The three-year sentence was reduced on appeal to 15 months and an international ban was lifted last March.

Egyptian soccer faces hard times after World Cup defeat

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian soccer, still reeling from a recent World Cup defeat, is falling on hard times amid calls for drastic changes in the running of the sport.

The lean spell began in July with a 2-0 defeat of the national side by Morocco in an African qualifying round which ended Egypt's aspirations to appear in a World Cup finals for the first time in more than 30 years.

Self-doubt caused by the defeat spread to Cairo's top club sides National and Zamalek, who between them provide the nucleus of the national squad and are defending champions of Africa's two club competitions.

At National, new head coach Mahmoud Al Gawahri has been in a power struggle with manager

Hassan Hamdi. Sixteen players were suspended for boycotting training in support of Gawahri. Zamalek's Yugoslav manager Dusan Nenkovic, signed last July, is entangled in a similar row with officials of his club.

The club battles and international failure have triggered an avalanche of sharply-worded articles warning that the African Nations' Cup could elude Egypt once more when the finals kick off here in March.

Egypt last won the cup in 1959 and finished a dismal fourth in 1984 in the Ivory Coast. As hosts, they have automatically qualified for next year's finals.

After the defeat by Morocco, the Egyptian Football Federation sacked national squad manager

Abdou Saleh Al Wahsh, promising fans a brighter future. But this did not stop the sport's governing body coming under fire.

Naguib Mistakawi, a leading soccer commentator, accused members of the federation's board of being impostors and said Egypt's international players would be exhausted by the time they contest the cup.

Writing in a weekly magazine, he said lack of proper planning did not give players a much-needed break between league season. "It is disgusting," he concluded.

Federation Chairman Hassan Abdoun left for London Monday to look for a replacement for Wahsh and federation officials said a British manager might be a candidate.

France aims to avoid defeat in Leipzig

LEIPZIG, East Germany (R) — European soccer champions France, depleted by injuries, face a crucial hurdle on the road to the 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico when they meet East Germany in a group four qualifier Wednesday.

It is hard to imagine France's extravagant skills not being on parade in Mexico next summer, yet a repeat of their surprise defeat in Bulgaria in May would put them perilously close to elimination.

France, missing diminutive midfielder ace Alain Giresse, were surprisingly outclassed in Sofia, losing 2-0, and dropped to third in the group behind Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

With the top two qualifying, defeat in Leipzig would probably mean that France would have to beat Yugoslavia in Paris in November while a draw would send the Yugoslavs to Mexico.

European footballer of the year Michel Platini, who flew back to

join the squad after playing for Juventus in Sunday's opening day of the Italian League programme, summed up the danger confronting France.

"If it doesn't work on Wednesday, we will be faced with double or quits in November," he said. "The problem is that the East Germans are not considered strong opposition. Winning here would be a normal result. But at the same time you can't describe it as a gentle outing just for our health."

Giresse is back for France this time but the European champions will be missing another key member of their glorious midfield in Jean Tigana as well as full-back Manuel Amoros, striker Yannick Stopyra and utility man Thierry Tusseau.

Trainer Henri Michel is likely to pin his hopes on five players from league leaders Paris St. Germain, including uncapped midfielder Fabrice Poulain, while sweeper

Maxime Bossis will set a French record by winning his 66th cap.

France showed they have got over the defeat to Bulgaria, which ended an unbeaten run of 15 games, with a brilliant 2-0 win over Uruguay last month in the New Artemio Franchi Cup for the European and South American champions.

East Germany can have few illusions about their chances against a side which has only lost twice in the last three years but at least there will be no real pressure on them.

Trainer Bernd Stange, who acknowledges his team has already missed the Mexico boat, said: "We've nothing to lose... I'm hoping for a performance that will give us new confidence."

Stange is trying to rebuild a young side and has dropped sweeper Hans-Juergen Doerner, 34, who recently won his 100th cap, in favour of 25-year-old Frank Rohde.

Indian-Sri Lankan 2nd test poised for exciting finish

COLOMBO (R) — The second cricket test between India and Sri Lanka appears poised for an exciting finish after home skipper Duleep Mendis set the touring team a challenge target on the fourth day on Tuesday.

When bad light stopped play, India, chasing a victory target of 348 runs in 333 minutes plus 20 overs, were 16 without loss.

A superb third wicket stand of 132 in almost even time between Roy Dias and Aravinda de Silva enabled Sri Lanka to declare their second innings closed at 206 for three, an overall lead of 347.

Dias and De Silva came together with Sri Lanka on 48 for two and desperately in need of quick

runs. But at tea, the pair had added only a further 48 against the tight Indian bowling attack.

After the interval, however, they exploded into action scoring 64 off the first six overs.

De Silva, 19, collected his maiden half century in a dazzling knock of 75 in 150 minutes.

Dias, who made 95 in the Sri Lankan first innings, notched up his second half century of the match with an unbeaten 60 when Mendis declared.

Earlier, India resumed at 210 for six, but saw their hopes of a good first innings total dashed by some spirited Sri Lankan bowling and the last four wickets fell for the addition of only 34 runs.

U.S., Soviet athletes meet in Tokyo on Sept. 21

TOKYO (R) — Olympic 100 metres champion Carl Lewis and world record holder Calvin Smith will lead the United States against the Soviet Union and Japan at a star-studded athletics meeting on Sept. 21-22, organisers said Tuesday.


The U.S. team for the 21 men's events also includes Olympic 200 metres silver medalist Kirk Baptiste, 5,000 metres runner Doug Padilla, the new Grand Prix champion, former world record holder Tom Petranoff in the javelin

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.3080/90	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3714/19	Canadian dollars
	2.9470/80	West German marks
	3.3105/20	Dutch guilders
	2.4285/300	Swiss francs
	59.52/57	Belgian francs
	8.9825/75	French francs
	1960/1961	Italian lire
	242.95/243.10	Japanese yen
	8.6200/300	Swedish crowns
	8.5800/900	Norwegian crowns
	10.6775/875	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	320.00/320.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed at the day's lows following U.K. M-3 money supply figures for August which were at the top end of expectations. Dealers said. Prices had been marked down at the outset in reaction to recent speculative advances and had rallied on cheap buying during the morning.

The two per cent rise in U.K. money supply choked bargain hunting at mid-afternoon and prices slid towards the close. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 16.0 to 1,313.3 after 1,316.6 at 1200 GMT. Among the leaders ICI closed 15p lower at 682.

Government bonds extended early 1/4 point declines to end up to 1/2 point down. North Americans were mixed and golds lower. Distillers closed 12p lower at 396 after 385 on comments by the takeover panel which appeared to delay the chances of a bid from Argill Group. The latter ended 13p up at 323. Elsewhere in the drink sector Allied Lyons closed 3p off at 280.

Oil shares showed closing declines of up to 15p on continued nervousness over Saudi Arabia's intentions concerning its oil production and pricing strategy. B.P. was down 15p at 553 and Lasso ended 13p lower at 258.

Banks and insurances were mostly lower although Barclays firmed 5p to 374 after 367. Prudential eased 3p to 674 ahead of interim results on Thursday while Refuge fell 6p to 330.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 11, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is an unusually good day for you to let your vision and imagination run riot and to think in terms of the most comprehensive advancement that you can make.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Your ideas are most creative now and you can figure out how best to get them in motion. Take no risks while traveling.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Plan what can be done to improve conditions at home and listen to the views of kin and express your own also.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Talk over with your associates some new interest you have in mind and gain their views. Show you are good dealing with others.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Your actions today can bring you a greater income in the near future, so think and act along monetary lines.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You have vision and can easily see how you can be more successful in the future; make better use of your special talents.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Good day to garner the data you need so that you can get ahead faster in your career. Forget details for the time being.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A generous pal who admires you can give backing you need to gain some cherished wish. Socialize in groups tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you get the okay of a higher-up, you can easily attain some worldly ambition which interests you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get friendly with a successful person who can assist you to advance in life. Also, plan a trip you've wished to take.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get business affairs extended so that you can become more successful in the future. This evening, concentrate on romance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Join with an influential person you know and become more successful. Reach policy agreements with associates.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get conditions around you more as you want them to be. Add color, music and art to your surroundings.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will do best if encouraged and praised when something exceptional is done, so be generous with your progeny. Give as fine an education as possible and equip your progeny well for an executive position.

THE Daily Crossword by Virginia Yates

ACROSS

1. Melancholy
4. Jousts
9. Loco
13. Fancy
15. Not for one
16. — brew
17. Glass piece
18. Poplar
20. Sweater dummy?
22. Jugs
23. Fosse
24. Angler's basket
26. Menu words
28. Haggard novel
29. Soles
33. Feds
34. Squeech
36. Printpress
37. Bib. book
38. Sesame Street denizen
39. School glee
40. Mil. rank
41. Give — (make an attempt)
42. Guam harbor
43. Welles
45. Suffix for custom
46. McCormick or Vance
47. Togetherness
48. Scott
50. Scott Hamill
51. Ion is one
53. Lesson — pie
55. Beverage in a doll's cup
56. Do clerical work
60. Others: Lat.
61. — go
62. Hubbub
63. Requisite
64. — lolly
65. Great Lakes canals

DOWN

1. Fabric
2. Arabian gulf
3. Popular pants
4. Not spilled out
5. — rhythm
6. Permit
7. Explosive
8. Jade or jasper
9. Take one's time
10. Sleep like —
11. Ice mass
12. Little shavers
14. Amaze
19. Nine's nine
21. Had being
24. Cheap
25. Take a second shot
26. Disco phrase
27. Earth tone
28. Juan de Fuca, e.g.
30. Learners
31. Jap. port
32. Tablelands
34. Ready, —, go!
35. Rumanian coat of arms
36. Brins
37. Bill's partner
44. Offer more for
45. "The Sweetest of Sings"
46. Star or setter
48. Like some pasts
50. Pursue
51. Vegetable
52. François' friend
53. Penny
54. Alibi
55. Stout's Wolfe
57. Bill's partner
58. Jap. fish

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ALIVE COITS ROSE
MOVES AMEC OWLS
GORN CIAIO BEAT
DINITHOLOGIST
POE PLAN
VIBRO ENIED AIE
LIVE LABYRINTH
AISE EITIE SAIAD
LABORATH LEVI
SITY DEIN DADDOY
BEY TOP
BIRDTHEHANO
BIXIA REIAN LINJAE
AISTS EIRIE SIOGIE
STAYS DOISE SEWIS

Jordanian development plan to give priority to employment, payments

By Ibrahim Noori
Reuters



Abdullah Nsour

AMMAN — Jordan, suffering from economic hardships and cuts in Arab aid, is giving priority to tackling balance of payments and employment issues in a new multi-billion dollar five-year development plan.

"Our 1986-1990 plan priorities are clear. We shall give high priority to projects which can redress our balance of payments as well as to schemes which are labour intensive and which can create jobs in rural areas," Planning Minister Abdullah Nsour told Reuters in an interview.

"We want to have a solid balance of payments position and also to be able to face unemployment expected from population growth, more graduates entering the job market and Jordanian workers returning from the Gulf," he added.

He declined to give details of the likely cost of the plan, which he said was still being drafted. But officials said it might involve investments totalling four billion dinars (\$10.3 billion), 20 per cent more than the current plan.

Dr. Nsour said he expected foreign governments and financial institutions to help finance the plan. "We hope they, especially the Arabs, will augment their aid," he added.

Aid from Arab oil countries has fallen below expectations in recent years, and diplomats said prospects of greater assistance appeared bleak because of the continuing weakness of the oil market.

In 1978 the Arab League launched a 10-year aid scheme to help Jordan, Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation strengthen their steadfastness against Israel.

Jordan was to receive \$1.25 billion a year, but has actually been getting less than half that amount as donors cut their aid in the wake of sharp falls in their oil income.

When the scheme ends in three years time Jordan's financial problems could deepen — the income helps keep its balance of payments in surplus despite a persistent trade deficit.

The overall balance of payments showed a 2.2 million dinar (\$5.6 million) surplus last year, down from 15.4 million dinars (\$39.6 million) in 1983, despite a

trade deficit of 778.5 million dinars (\$2 billion). Another prop for the overall balance is remittances from Jordanians working abroad, which totalled a record 403 million dinars (\$1 billion) last year. But officials expect this too to decline as more jobless Jordanians return home from the recession-hit Gulf.

The cut in the Arab aid has forced Jordan into foreign borrowing, which totalled \$2.5 billion at end of March.

For the second time in less than a year, the government last month took fresh measures, including tax incentives and import curbs, in an attempt to narrow the trade gap and spur local industries and the economy.

Businessmen welcomed the measures by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, who promised his government "will continue to strive to create a suitable climate for production and employment."

Imports of about 20 commodities, including cement, flowers and ornamental plants, were banned and businessmen were allowed for the first time to write off part of any bad debts against income tax.

Previously taxable capital gains from land sales were fully exempted, as well as between 30 and 50 per cent of rental income.

Firms exporting more than 20 per cent of their output now enjoy tax rebates of between 10 and 30 per cent.

Businessmen say that although the government stands to lose revenue, the measures are positive for the long term, helping to improve the trade balance through higher exports.

But one banker added: "Drastic import curbs are needed to narrow the trade gap."

Arab official calls for reevaluation of policies

TUNIS (OPECNA) — Dr. Abdul Mobsen Zalzal, assistant secretary general for economic affairs of the Arab League, has called for a reevaluation of Arab economic policy and greater inter-Arab trade exchanges.

He told a press conference at the end of a three-day Arab economic and social council meeting that Arab states should increase

mutual trade, especially in cases where one country had goods and services which another one needed.

The council appealed to Arab countries to take steps to fight the current recession caused, among others, by a difficult oil market and protectionist measures against Arab goods.

Shamir sees closer ties with Japan

TOKYO (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Tuesday he was confident that economic relations between Israel and Japan, often strained by Arab pressure, would grow stronger as a result of his visit to Tokyo.

At a press conference after talks with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and Japanese business leaders, Mr. Shamir said he had urged Japan to follow the example of countries such as the United States and European Community members which have good economic ties with both Israel and Arab nations.

"It is now clear to me that Japan is for the principle of free trade between all nations. I don't see any political obstacles now to developing closer economic relations with Israel and I am confident that we will have stronger economic relations between our two countries," he said.

Mr. Shamir's five-day visit

which ended Tuesday was the first official visit by an Israeli foreign minister to Japan.

Japan and Israel have had diplomatic relations since 1952 but Tokyo carefully defined as unofficial visits by previous foreign ministers Golda Meir and Abba Eban in the 1960s.

The two sides disagreed sharply in talks Tuesday on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), with Mr. Nakasone urging Mr. Shamir to talk to PLO leaders and Mr. Shamir refusing on the ground that the PLO "was a terrorist organisation."

Mr. Shamir alleged that any country supporting the PLO was "harming the cause of peace", a Japanese foreign ministry spokesman said.

Consafe files for bankruptcy

STOCKHOLM (R) — The Swedish offshore group Consafe, the world's largest supplier of service and accommodation platforms to the oil industry, filed for bankruptcy Tuesday.

It took the decision after its main creditor, the state-owned shipbuilder Svenska Varv, refused to change the terms on which it would participate in a rescue package.

Consafe said it filed for bankruptcy after Svenska Varv, which demanded a new share issue to attract fresh capital, had declined to accept an alternative plan put forward by six banks on the ground that the financing was too short-term.

Consafe, Sweden's only major stake in the offshore business, began negotiations with its creditors last July after announcing that it faced a severe cash crisis caused by overcapacity in the once-booming offshore business.

The bankruptcy, which does not apply to a few of the firm's subsidiaries, is the second to strike the Swedish shipping industry in less than a year.

Last December the shipping group Saleninvest, the world's largest operator of refrigerator ships, filed for bankruptcy after its creditors, including banks and in particular the Swedish state, refused to save the firm.

Th ruling Social Democrats have criticised the non-Socialist parties who ruled Sweden from 1976 to 1982 for pouring government money into shipyards, steel producing and other dying industries.

Stockbrokers said the bankruptcy was widely anticipated and that there was no reaction at all on the Stockholm bourse.

Consafe founder Mr. Christer Ericsson last month said the net cost of a bankruptcy would be up to 900 million crowns (\$105 million). The group's main debt is 2.3 billion crowns (\$267 million) owed to Svenska Varv.

S. African financial chief ends Western tour with little success

ZURICH (R) — The head of South Africa's central bank has ended a two-week tour of Europe and the United States after a cool response to his country's unilateral decision to defer debt repayments.

Banking sources said Reserve Bank Governor Gerhard De Kock heard growing concern expressed about racial unrest in South Africa during visits to commercial banks and meeting with U.S. and British central bankers.

Even normally friendly commercial bankers were unwilling to commit further money to offset credit lines other banks had cancelled as racial tension in the country mounted, they said.

Central bankers said major political changes were needed for a lasting solution to Pretoria's foreign debt problems.

Court postpones trial of AMF ex-chief

ABU DHABI (R) — The trial of former Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) President Mr. Jawad Hasbani and five associates charged with financial malpractice was postponed Tuesday after four of the accused failed to appear in court.

Public prosecutor Abdul Wahab Abdul told reporters that defence lawyers had requested more time to prepare their cases and the trial had been rescheduled for Oct. 27.

Mr. Hasbani, AMF president from 1977 to 1982, was charged in June with breach of faith and falsifying accounts, leading to the loss of \$70 million AMF funds.

He has denied the charges in a press statement.

Three colleagues — former head of treasury Mohammad Mahdi Saleh Bahr Al Oulom and ex-finance directors Samir Fadil Awo and Jalal Oban Stephan — had also been summoned to answer the charges. All four are Iraqi citizens now living outside the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Mr. Abdul said only the two accused who live in the UAE had appeared at Tuesday's session. He declined to identify them.

An official source said sentencing in absentia was not now possible in Abu Dhabi, but an amendment to the legal code to allow it would be signed shortly by Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Khalifa bin Zaid Al Nahayan.

The sources said lack of an extradition treaty between the UAE and Britain, where Mr. Hasbani is living, ruled out returning him against his will. He was represented Tuesday by an international team of lawyers.

Mr. Hasbani, in a statement to Reuters in July, denied "all and every one of such allegations as have been levelled against me and my former senior staff by the present management of the fund."

Central bankers who gathered in Basle Monday said a change in Pretoria's policies would probably be enough to solve the country's financial problems.

"South Africa would have to attain political stability again before central banks would help. And then we wouldn't need to. The commercial banks would step in," one central banker said.

In an interview with Swiss television shortly before his departure, Mr. De Kock said South Africa did not share the problems of leading debtor nations, which had been forced to reschedule because of weak economies.

Both central bankers and Swiss commercial bankers agreed South Africa's economy could easily support the foreign debts it had accumulated, were it not for the mounting political risk.

Some American banks had set off the crisis by cancelling credit lines in the wake of racial strife and Pretoria's insistence on maintaining apartheid.

Other bankers were reluctant to fill the gap, fearing their exposure to South Africa was already reaching the highest levels acceptable.

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Bolivia wants 15 years' moratorium

LA PAZ (R) — Bolivia wants foreign banks to allow it 15 years before it begins repaying the \$892 million principal it owes. Planning Minister Guillermo Bedregal said Monday.

"Bolivia will pay the debt, but will not pay it immediately because of its tremendous (economic) crisis," Mr. Bedregal said in a speech to the senate.

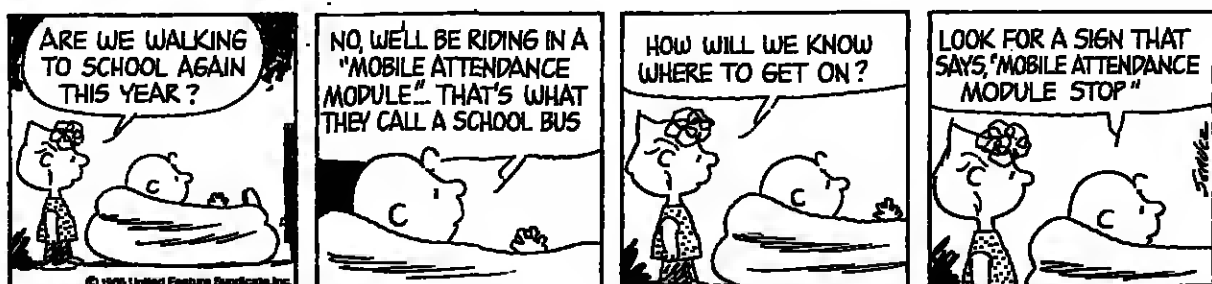
He said Bolivia, which has total foreign debts of \$3.6 billion, also wanted banks to allow it 10 years' grace on interest payments.

Bolivia will not tolerate floating interest rates and believed it should pay no more than six per cent interest on the debt, he said.

The country has made no payments on its debt since March last year.

Mr. Bedregal said Bolivia had monetary reserves of \$150 million.

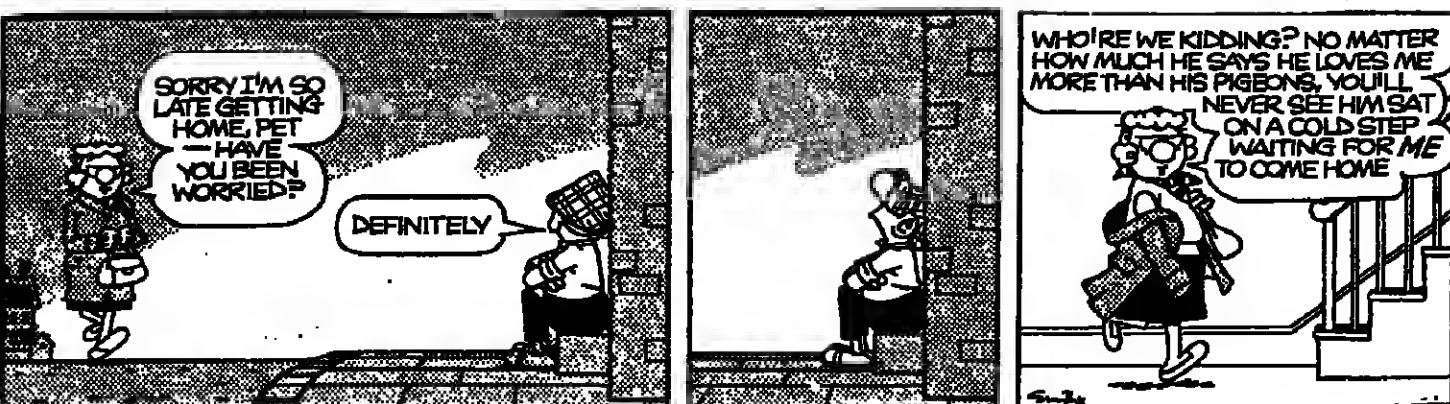
Peanuts



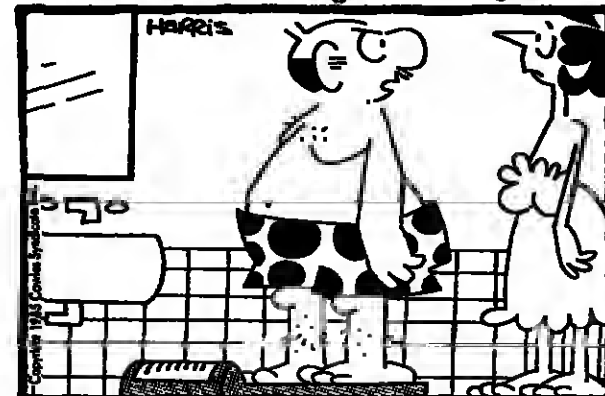
Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harts



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

EUDLE
KEJYR
TRALFE
LIRIXE

WHAT THE SCOTSMAN WHO RETURNED HOME LATE ONE NIGHT ALMOST GOT.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: "OOOO"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: VIPER QUOTA MUSKET CUDGEL

Answer: Medicine men are seldom what they're this — "QUACKED" UP TO BE

3 people burnt to death in Birmingham riots

BIRMINGHAM, England (R) — At least three people were killed when black and white youths rioted overnight in Birmingham, Britain's second biggest city, setting fire to buildings and looting shops, police said.

Police spokesman Ian Strachen told Reuters three bodies had been found in the burnt-out shell of a post office.

There were reports that a fourth body had been found in one of 50 shops damaged in the riot, the worst in Britain's inner cities in four years, he said.

First unofficial estimates put the cost of property damage at several million sterling.

Firefighters, who toiled through the night protected from the rampaging mobs by riot police, took 12 hours to bring the blazes under control.

At dawn, they were still picking through the wreckage which included two collapsed buildings, a burnt-out garage and a church. Distraught shopkeepers, many of them Asian, arrived to inspect their looted premises. "This has ruined 13 years of my life," one told Reuters. He refused to give his name.

Riot police fought pitched battles with the rampaging youths who built barricades and hurled petrol bombs. They made 25 arrests.

Police said youths devastated Birmingham's predominantly black Handsworth district, setting

set fire to petrol they spilled on the road.

The spokesman said incidents were reported in other areas of the city. Several youths were arrested for looting.

Police were rushed to the city from five nearby counties.

Riots rocked 20 cities and towns, including Birmingham, Britain's second largest city, in the summer of 1981.

Residents said violence has never been far from the surface since then in Handsworth, an area of high unemployment and racial tension.

They spoke of frequent recent swoops on local clubs and cafes by drug squad police.

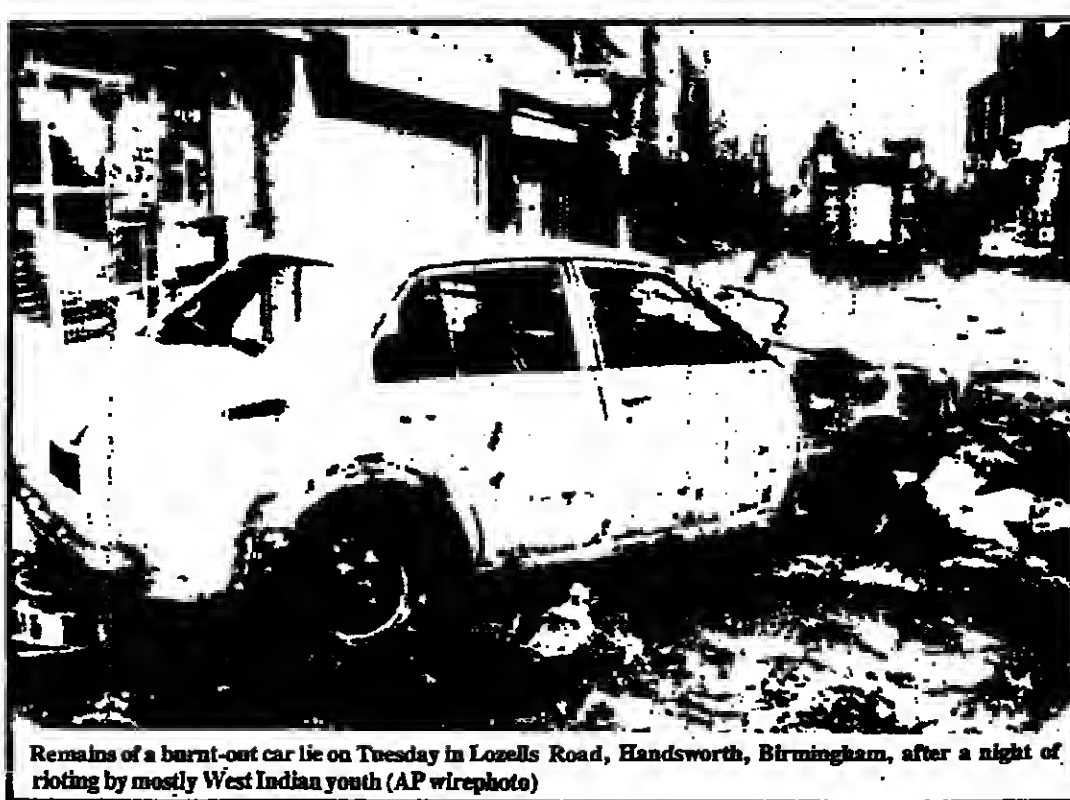
"If you are black, they think you are a junkie, that's all the police can think about," one young black told Reuters.

Monday night's violence escalated when youths hurled bricks, bottles and petrol bombs at firemen called to fight a blaze in a derelict entertainment hall.

"For no apparent reason we came under very severe attack and were forced to withdraw. It was terrifying," fire officer Bob Skelton said.

Police said they sealed off three streets and "waited for the violence to wear itself out", concentrating their initial effort on containing the riot.

When they eventually moved in, they found one road blocked by rubble from collapsed buildings.



Remains of a burnt-out car lie on Tuesday in Lozells Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, after a night of rioting by mostly West Indian youth (AP wirephoto)

Pentagon approves arms sales to four countries

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Defence Department has approved arms sales to West Germany, Britain, South Korea and two contracts with Pakistan described as a response to the Soviet occupation of neighbouring Afghanistan.

Assuming there are no congressional objections, the Pentagon said it would offer Pakistan 88 self-propelled Howitzers and 50-caliber machine guns for \$78 million, and 110 armoured personnel carriers equipped with machine guns for \$25 million.

"The sales will contribute to the foreign policy objectives of the United States by enabling Pakistan to increase its capability to provide for its own security and defence, particularly in view of the increased threat resulting from the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan," the Pentagon said.

Both sales will be overseen by the army, the Pentagon added. The prime contractor for the howitzers will be Bowen McLaugh of York, Pennsylvania, and the prime contractor for the armoured personnel carriers will be the FMC Corp. of San Jose, California.

West Germany will be offered 944 high speed anti-radiation missiles (HARM) along with spare parts, test equipment and training and technical assistance at an estimated cost of \$313 million. The HARM is an air-to-surface missile designed to lock on and destroy enemy radar systems.

The deal will be overseen by the navy and the prime contractor will be the Texas Instruments Corporation of Dallas, the Pentagon said.

South Korea is being offered 21 AH-1S Cobra attack helicopters equipped with TOW anti-tank missiles for an estimated \$178 million, the Pentagon continued. The sale will be overseen by the army and the prime contractor will be Bell Helicopter Textron Incorporated of Fort Worth, Texas.

Mozambican forces claim killing 101 guerrillas

MAPUTO (R) — Mozambican security forces have killed 101 rebels and seized large arms hauls in the southern Maputo province in the past 10 days, a military official was reported as saying.

The semi-official daily Noticias quoted military commander Maj.-Gen. Salvador Mutumbeque as saying the rebels were killed in an area where, according to the government, 63 insurgents died last month in clashes with government troops.

The casualties reported Tuesday follow the capture on Aug. 28 of a rebel headquarters in the central Sofala province by combined Mozambican and Zimbabwian forces.

Right-wing rebels of the Mozambique National Resistance, demanding power-sharing and new elections in Mozambique, have been fighting against President Samora Machel's Socialist government since the country's independence from Portugal in 1975.

French forest fire injures 7 firemen

ALES, France (R) — A state of emergency has been declared in France's southern Gard department after a forest fire flared up overnight, burning houses and injuring seven firemen, local officials said Tuesday.

They described the fire, which destroyed 3,000 hectares (7,000 acres) of land, as one of the worst of the season and said 900 soldiers backed by nine specially equipped aircraft were still fighting the flames this morning.

Some 40 houses have been evacuated and local officials said five had already been destroyed. Three villages around the small

town of Chamborigaud were directly threatened by a wall of flame eight kilometres long, they added. Senior fire officials said they believed the fire was almost certainly caused deliberately. Empty petrol cans had been found in the area, they added.

The fire was spotted on Saturday but it was only late Monday night that it flared up, fanned by warm, dry mistral winds, the fire officials said.

They said local authorities had declared a state of emergency covering natural disasters to allow better coordination in firefighting. Among those evacuated were

U.S. to test anti-satellite weapons on Friday

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon has scheduled its first final-stage test of an anti-satellite weapon on Friday, but two opposition Democratic congressmen opposed to the programme plan to ask a federal court to halt the demonstration shot.

The air force weapon will be fired from under a high-flying F-15 jet fighter and be aimed at a seven-year-old scientific satellite over the Pacific Ocean, according to sources who would discuss the programme Monday only on condition they not be identified.

But congressmen George Brown and Joseph Moakley planned to file suit in U.S. district court in Washington, seeking an injunction blocking the test.

Mr. Brown and Mr. Moakley planned to base their suit on their contention that President Ronald Reagan's administration had violated congressional requirements for notifying Congress of the planned test, the sources said.

The timing of the test is critical because the "Solwind" satellite which is the target will be in the correct orbital position Friday but won't be for several weeks after that, the sources said.

The test originally had been scheduled on Sept. 4, but was cancelled at the last minute after Pentagon attorneys told the air force that the required 15-day notification period would not expire until Sept. 5, the sources said.

COLUMN 8

China executes 17 in three weeks

PEKING (AP) — Seventeen men were executed recently for murder, rape or robbery, according to posters and a special exhibit seen outside a city court Tuesday. Most of the men were peasants or unemployed and all but four were in their 20s. Six were convicted of sex offences. The executions were carried out in Peking between Aug. 23 and Sept. 5, according to the posters and exhibit outside the Peking Intermediate People's Court. The posters had big, blood-red check marks. One 29-year-old offender, Wu Jing, was a habitual thief who committed 110 robberies at Peking University and 20 other colleges in the city, the exhibit said. His haul included 77 radios, 46 recorders and 12 calculators and was valued at 34,500 yuan (\$11,695), it added.

Scientist claims tooth decay breakthrough

MELBOURNE (R) — A Melbourne scientist said Tuesday he had developed a tooth vaccine which would dramatically cut decay and revolutionise dentistry. Dental researcher Geoffrey Smith told reporters the vaccine could be made up for a patient's individual needs and dentists could regularly monitor its effects. He said dentists could take a smear from the mouth of a patient and send it to a pathology laboratory which would make up the vaccine paste. Smith said he was ahead of United States researchers still experimenting with mass-produced vaccines which only attack a major strain of tooth decay and could be overpowered by new strains.

Prosperity kills Singaporeans

SINGAPORE (R) — Prosperity is killing Singaporeans with heart diseases now accounting for almost a quarter of all deaths. Government statistics released Tuesday showed that heart ailments killed 1,500 people in the first six months this year. This was 22 per cent of all deaths and outstripped cancer and pneumonia. Doctors blame an excessive intake of fatty foods by increasingly affluent Singaporeans, lack of exercise, and an unhealthy lifestyle of late nights, drinking and heavy stress.

U.K. builds luxury warship

PORTSMOUTH, England (AP) — The newest warship built in Britain features an oval bed, sunken bath with taps of 22 carat gold, a Danish Hi-Fi system piping music throughout and television rising out of the cabin floor. The 30-metre vessel is a fast patrol boat built for the navy of Bahrain by Souters of Cowes on the Isle of Wight at a cost of £1.7 million (\$2.2 million). Souters said Tuesday the boat is likely to be used only by one of the "very senior ministers" of the tiny Gulf state. The vessel has the usual military fittings, like a 20-millimetre gun and anti-aircraft missiles. But the bridge roof is lined with grey suede, public rooms have cream leather seats and blue carpets and there is West German furniture and kitchen equipment. Bathrooms are lined with royal blue marble and the toilet bowls are of smoked glass. But the 15-man crew won't be living in luxury. They are crammed together in the forecastle on bunks barely 45 centimetres apart. The boat is on display at a royal navy equipment exhibition in Portsmouth and will be sent to Bahrain on a cargo liner in the next few weeks, the builders said.

Schools boycotted over AIDS

NEW YORK (AP) — More than 250,000 children in two New York districts did not show up for the first day of school Monday as parents protested the city's decision to let an elementary school student with AIDS attend public classes. The identity of the child and the child's school was not disclosed. Some demonstrating parents said their children would stay home until they found out just which school the child with the incurable disease was attending. AIDS, or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, is an often fatal affliction in which the body's immune system becomes unable to resist disease. Some children have been born with the disease because their mothers carried the virus.

Brussels meeting discusses ways against chemical weapons production

WASHINGTON — The dirty yellow cloud of poisonous gas has supplanted the atom's mushroom cloud as a symbol of the most pressing proliferation danger facing the world, in the view of government officials from the United States and several other countries.

While no nation has joined the A-bomb club since India conducted a nuclear test in 1974, the deadly chemicals known as "the poor man's atomic bomb" have been repeatedly used in warfare in the 1980s, and in ways that experts fear may promote their future use.

In an effort to stem the tide, officials and chemical specialists from the United States and chemically advanced Western European and Asian countries held an unpublished meeting for several days last week in Brussels, under the leadership of Australia, to discuss ways to prevent the production and use of chemical weapons from spreading to additional countries. This was the second meeting since June of this group, whose existence is so sensitive with some governments that it has not been given a name.

Secretary of State George Shultz said earlier this year that the United States thinks that at least 13 nations have chemical weapons, compared with five in 1963, and that additional nations are trying to get them.

"Proliferation is an enormous problem," said a senior State Department official who has been deeply involved in low-key U.S. efforts to limit them. "I'm afraid that the number (of chemical weapons nations) could double in the next decade." — Washington Post.

Former Argentine military leaders face judges today

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina's nine former military leaders face their judges in open court for the first time Wednesday as their trial on human rights charges enters its final stage.

Court sources said federal prosecutor Julio Strassera would try in his final submissions to show that the abduction, torture and killing of thousands of Argentines during military rule from 1976 to 1983 was part of a government plan.

They said the prosecutor could seek life sentences for at least five of the former leaders.

Defence lawyers were likely to respond by defending military intervention in the fight against guerrillas and by limiting their clients' responsibility for crimes committed by subordinates, the sources said.

"This is a political trial instructed to condemn, not to judge," retired Gen. Jorge Videla, one of the three former presidents

being tried, said in a recent writ. Over the last month President Raul Alfonsín, who ordered the trial shortly after coming to power in 1983, has visited the three branches of the armed forces, riding in an army tank, co-piloting an air force jet fighter and boarding an aircraft carrier during manoeuvres.

But government sources said there was more concern in the armed forces about low wages and cuts in the military budget than about the outcome of the trial.

Last Friday 50,000 people marched through central Buenos Aires to urge punishment of the military leaders and their subordinates. Human rights leader Estela Carlotto told the crowd that because of the trial everybody knew crimes against humanity had been committed in Argentina.

The federal appeals court began hearings in April and has taken evidence from about 1,000 witnesses.

Howe starts Nigerian visit

LOGOS (R) — British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe arrived in Lagos Tuesday at the start of a two-day visit aimed at patching up strained Anglo-Nigerian relations.

He is due to meet the country's new military leaders although his trip was planned before the bloodless coup that brought them to power two weeks ago.

Relations between London and Lagos were badly soured in the aftermath of a failed attempt in London 14 months ago to kidnap Umaru Dikko, a former transport minister wanted in Nigeria for alleged corruption.

Britain and Nigeria withdrew their high commissioners (ambassadors) after the incident and Sir Geoffrey is keen that high commissioners should be reappointed.

The new Nigerian government has yet to appoint a foreign minister, so Sir Geoffrey will be meeting a member of the policy-making armed forces ruling council, Air Commodore Larry Koiyoan, as well as the new president, Gen. Ibrahim Babangida.

Apart from the Dikko incident, Britain's opposition to sanctions against South Africa is likely to figure in talks, diplomatic sources say. Nigeria has called repeatedly for sanctions against Pretoria as a protest against its apartheid policy of racial segregation.

But Nigerian sources have said that Sir Geoffrey would be given a warm welcome in Lagos.

They say the fact that his visit comes so soon after a coup and while a complete government has not yet been formed, shows the importance Britain attaches to the trip.

Nigeria is Britain's largest trade partner in black Africa and its second largest in the Third World after India.

But other countries, notably France, have been gaining ground, particularly after the ousted regime of Gen. Mobammad Buhari signed a series of huge oil barter deals.

Economic analysts say Britain is likely to be encouraged by the new regime's pledge to review these deals, as this could restore normal trade patterns. Britain was not involved in the barter arrangements.

Britain is also one of Nigeria's main creditors and the analysts expect Sir Geoffrey, who is also due to visit the governor of the central bank, to press for movement on deadlocked rescheduling negotiations.

Pinochet's coup allies turn against him after 12 years

SANTIAGO (R) — Augusto Pinochet, who marks 12 years as Chilean President Wednesday is facing an unprecedented political challenge, with many people who supported the 1973 coup that brought him to power now openly aligned against him.

For the first time since the military ousted the leftist coalition headed by the late Salvador Allende, political parties from socialists to conservatives have united behind a proposal for a return to democracy.

Politicians say the national accord for a transition to full democracy, agreed last month after talks sponsored by the Roman

Catholic Church, has undermined Gen. Pinochet's claim that the only alternative to his rule is Communism and chaos.

The accord enabled opposition parties to distance themselves from last week's violent anti-government protests — largely the work of the far left — in which 10 people were shot dead.

"The government has over been more alone," said Dario Pavez, who signed the accord for a faction of the Socialists. "And the Communists role in the protests has left them isolated too," he told Reuters in an interview.

Diplomats agreed that the neo-Communist opposition parties of the Democratic Alliance Coalition had emerged with their position strengthened.

"They have a chance to present the accord as a middle way between the violence of the state and the violence of the Communists," one diplomat commented.

For that reason, attention during Gen. Pinochet's annual state-of-the-nation speech Wednesday — which European Community diplomats will boycott because of the human rights situation in Chile — will focus on his attitude to the accord.

U.S. congressmen urge increased spending on air safety

DALLAS (R) — U.S. House majority leader Jim Wright has accused the Reagan administration of contributing to U.S. air safety problems by slashing the number of federal aircraft inspectors and refusing to spend \$3 billion available for advanced radar equipment.

Mr. Wright, with U.S. representatives Norman Mineta and Martin Frost, toured the site of the Aug. 2 Delta Air Lines crash in preparation for a House Aviation Subcommittee hearing scheduled next month.

The fiery accident occurred during a severe thunderstorm at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, killing 135 people.

At a news conference Monday, Wright accused the office of budget and management of having "an attitude of callous disregard"

for the safety of U.S. airline passengers by refusing to spend the \$3 billion in an aviation safety trust fund earmarked for Doppler radar and other improvements.

The Reagan administration has also jeopardized U.S. airline passengers by reducing the number of FAA inspectors by 25 per cent since 1981, Mr. Wright said.

"We see a disturbing tendency to equate safety with cost," Mr. Wright told reporters.

Although the exact cause of the Aug. 2 crash has not yet been determined by the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), some experts have said that sophisticated new Doppler radar equipment could have warned the Delta pilot of dangerous windshear conditions at the airport and helped prevent the accident.

Nationwide installation of the advanced Doppler equipment, which converts wind speed and direction into colour pictures on a computer screen, was recommended two years ago by the NTSB.

But officials at the OMB, contending the Doppler system is already obsolete, earlier this year instructed the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to delay requesting installation funds.

Only one airport in the United States, at Memphis, Tennessee, has a Doppler radar system.

Mr. Mineta, chairman of the Aviation Subcommittee, said both Doppler radar and an increase in the current 679 FAA aircraft inspectors were critical measures needed to prevent further airline disasters.

The sophisticated new radar systems would cost a total of \$1.5 billion to equip the nation's largest airports, Mr. Mineta said.

"When we deregulated the aviation industry, we did not deregulate safety," he said. "Let's call a halt to any further research and development and deploy the equipment we have now. We've got the money to do it."

Iran hangs 16 for drug offences

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Sixteen persons have been hanged in a Tehran jail for drug offences, the Iranian evening newspaper Etefak said Tuesday. Etefak said the 16 were involved in international drug traffic and were hanged Monday.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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EGMONT VON DEWITZ

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH			
♠ J108			
♥ A Q 9 7 6 4			
♦ 9			
♣ A 6 5			
EAST			
♠ K 7 2			
♥ 8 2			
♦ Q J 10 7			
♣ K 10 9 8			
SOUTH			
♠ Q 6 5 4 3			
♥ K 10 5			
♦ A K 5 4 3			
♣ Void			

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♣	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♣.

It is with a sense of personal loss that we report the death of Egmont von Dewitz. For almost half a century, as a member of Germany's national team, he graced the international scene with his wit and charm. He was known as much for his long cigarette holder as for his twinkling eyes and sense of humor. He would derive more pleasure from swindling someone out of a trick than from a great technical play to land a slam. In the years im-